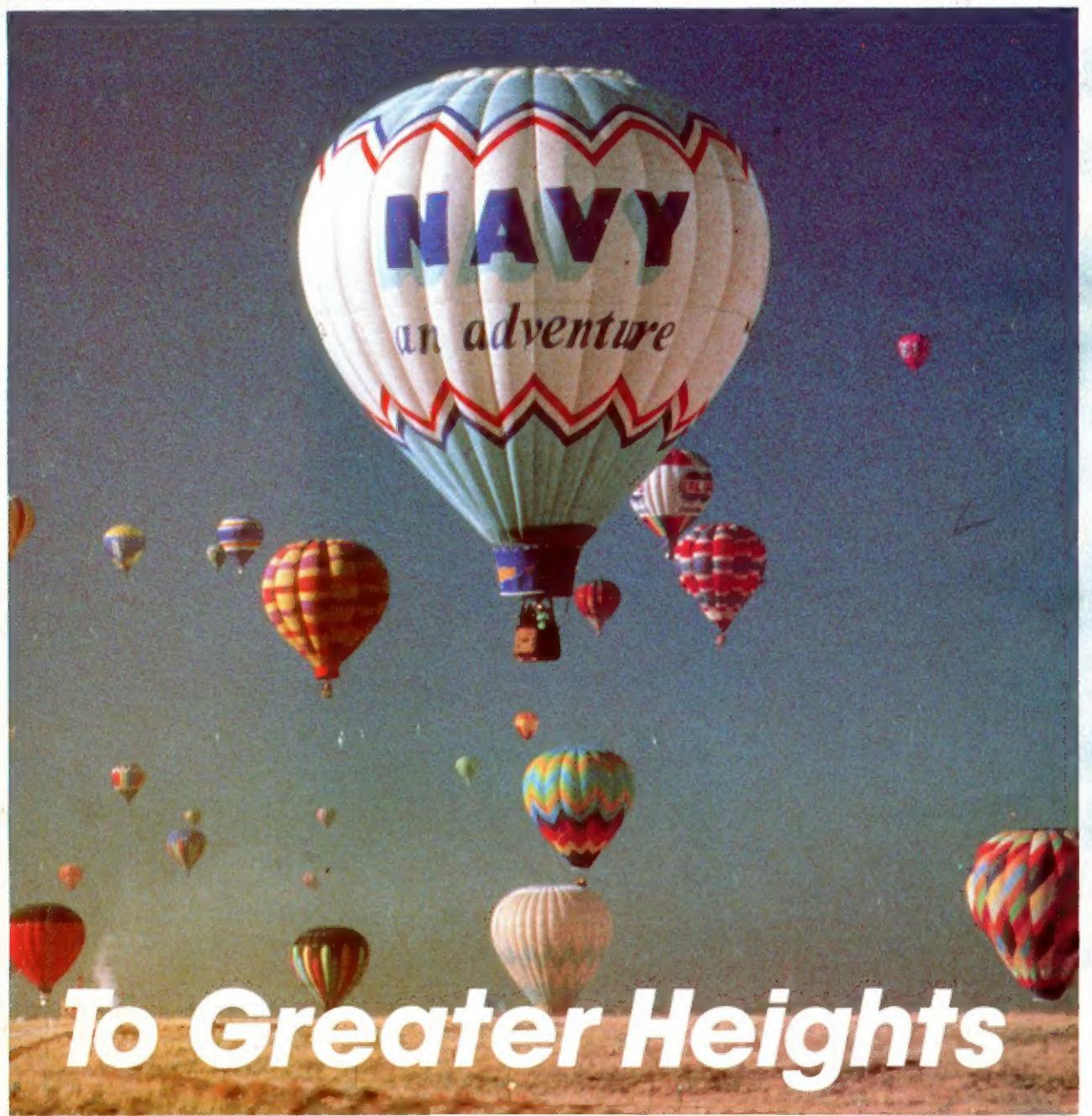


VFW

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

MAGAZINE

OCTOBER • 1983



To Greater Heights

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Cover

This Navy balloon rising above its companions symbolizes the growth expected in the 1983-84 membership year as the organization rises To Greater Heights. The Navy balloon also emphasizes the fact that Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., is a Navy veteran, while Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron and Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John Staum served in the Marine Corps, which is under the Department of the Navy. This is the first time in recent memory the three chair officers have been veterans of naval-related service. (Navy Photo.)

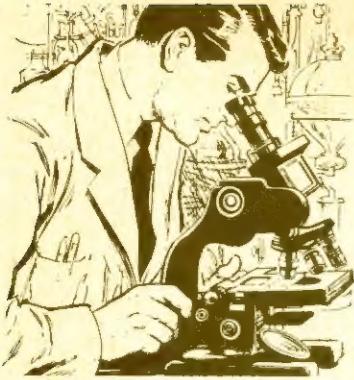


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MEDICAL FILE

concise up-to-date information
on effective treatment of
common medical problems

CAN'T SLEEP? NIGHTTIME PAIN?

When your head aches, you can't sleep and ordinary sleep-aids like Sominex, Nyquil and Unisom don't really help—try Quiet World®. It's a lot more than a sleep aid. In fact, you'd need the relaxant in Sominex plus the 2 pain relievers doctors recommend most to get all the help Quiet World brings. Quiet World makes you drowsy... relieves your pain—so you can sleep.



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Trust Arthritis Pain Formula. It's a very special medicine for arthritis pain.

It's stronger than regular pain relievers. It's microfined. And it has two buffers for extra stomach protection. Doctors trust the medicine in Arthritis Pain Formula for hours of relief from minor arthritis pain. It's effective for headaches, too.

And if you can't take aspirin, there's Aspirin-Free Arthritis Pain Formula.



Use all medications only as directed.

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A member of the VFW may be able to participate in any of six different insurance programs:

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- TO INSURE THE NATIONAL SECURITY through maximum military strength.
- TO SPEED THE REHABILITATION of the nation's disabled and needy veterans.
- TO ASSIST THE WIDOWS AND ORPHANS, and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans.
- TO PROMOTE AMERICANISM through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live.

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OF CIRCULATION

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LEGISLATIVE

President Reagan signed the "Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act of 1983," which became Public Law 98-77, at the National Convention Aug. 15. (See "To Greater Heights," this issue.) Major provisions of the law, supported by VFW testimony before both the Senate and House Veterans' Affairs Committees by the VFW:

Authorize on-the-job training in stable and permanent positions involving significant training for Korean Conflict or Vietnam Era veterans who have been unemployed for at least 15 of the 20 weeks immediately preceding the date of a veteran's application for participation in the program, or who were discharged from service for a service-connected disability or who are entitled to compensation or who would be entitled to compensation but for the receipt of retirement pay from the Armed Forces.

Grant to veterans with service-connected disabilities or veterans with service-connected disabilities rated at 10% or 20% determined to have serious employment handicaps up to a maximum of 15 months of training assistance. (In the case of all other Korean Conflict or Vietnam Era veterans, the maximum period of training is nine months.)

Authorize payments to employers to partially defray the cost of training, which is limited to 50% of the starting wage for up to a maximum of \$10,000 per veteran. (Payments shall be made at the end of each three-month period a veteran participates in an on-job-training program.)

Require employers offering a program of training to make written application to the Administrator of Veterans Affairs certifying that the employer is planning, upon a veteran's completion of training, to employ the veteran in the position for which the veteran has been trained and that the employer expects that such a position will be available on a stable and permanent basis to the veteran at the end of the training period. The program offered must meet the following criteria: Wages and benefits to be paid to a veteran participant are to be no less than those normally paid to those participating in such a program; training content of the program is adequate to qualify a veteran for a job in the field for which training is provided and that each participating veteran will be employed full-time in the program or job training, and the length of the training program is not more than that customarily required; training establishment must offer adequate space, equipment, instructional material and instructor personnel; adequate records will be maintained by the employer to indicate progress made by each veteran participant; no currently employed worker will be displaced and no laid-off worker will be prevented from recall due to the hiring of veterans for the program; no program will be approved which offers training in seasonal, intermittent or temporary jobs; training for employment under which commissions are the primary source of income; training for employment involving political or religious activities; training for employment with any department, agency, instrumentality, or branch of the federal government (including the United States Postal Service and the Postal Rate Commission), or if the program is not conducted within a state.

An employer may enter into an agreement with an educational institution which has been approved by guidelines already established in Chapter 34, Title 38, United States Code.

Vocational training may be pursued in institutions approved by guidelines already established in existing Veterans Administration vocational education programs or through pursuit of an associate degree program with a vocational objective. No more than \$25 million of the \$150 million authorized by this act for fiscal years 1984-1985 may be used for pursuit of such institutional training. Such assistance could be made available until not later than Dec. 31, 1984, for all Vietnam Era veterans who established GI Bill eligibility under Chapter 34 of Title 38, United States Code, except in those cases where it is determined that the veteran is not in need of the course to obtain a reasonably stable employment situation.

The Administrator of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Labor are required to conduct jointly an outreach and public information program to inform eligible veterans and employers of the job training and employment opportunities provided by this act.

Veterans may enroll for either type of training provided in this program during the 12-month period beginning Oct. 1, 1983, and ending Sept. 30, 1984. No assistance would be authorized to be paid for any program beginning after Dec. 31, 1984. In the event funds are not both appropriated and made available by the Office of Management and Budget on or before the effective date of Oct. 1, 1983, the termination dates would be extended until the funds are appropriated or made available by the Office of Management and Budget, so that the program would be effective for a full 12-month period.

* * *

Between Jan. 3 and July 31, 1983, the Senate was in session for 100 days for 628 hours and 13 minutes, and the House of Representatives, 99 days for 495 hours and 37 minutes. The Congressional Record consisted of 17,230 pages of proceedings and an additional 3,898 pages of extension of remarks. Of the 6,608 measures introduced in both the Senate and House, 63 public bills were enacted into law.

* * *

The Subcommittee on Compensation, Pension and Insurance approved for House Veterans' Affairs Committee action HR 1961, as amended, the Vietnam Veterans' Agent Orange Relief Act. The legislation would authorize payment of a disability allowance, not compensation but payable at the same rates as compensation, to veterans who served in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam Era and suffer from soft-tissue sarcoma becoming manifest within 20 years from the date of the veteran's departure from Southeast Asia; porphyria cutanea tarda (liver disease) becoming manifest within one year from the date of the veteran's departure from Southeast Asia; chloracne becoming manifest within one year from the date of the veteran's departure from Southeast Asia. Past Commander-in-Chief James R. Currieo personally testified supporting the original bill.

* * *

Based upon Senator John Danforth's remarks in the Congressional Record when he introduced S 1627, the "Cost-of-Living Limitation Act," it was reported in the September issue that COLA for veterans in receipt of compensation would suffer reduced COLA during the fiscal years 1985 through 1988. In the actual bill, however, the COLA reduction would apply to DIC payable to the survivors of veterans who were totally and permanently disabled due to service-connected disabilities at the time of their death, not compensation.

NATIONAL SECURITY

Russian dissident writer and exile, Alexander Solzhenitsyn says he doubts the West is capable of resisting Communism. In a recent interview with Bernard Levin, of the London Times, at his home in Vermont, Solzhenitsyn said opposition to nuclear arms "is really a very convenient pretext" for young people to hide behind because they "don't want any kind of armament, any kind of work, they just simply do not want to resist at all." Before moving to the West, he thought it was far stronger than he did nine years ago when he moved here. "Now I would no longer guarantee that the West would withstand invasion by Communism, withstand being taken over, subverted, by Communism."

* * *

Retired Army Col. J.B. Keeley, a member of Post 2028, Wood, Wis., and military commentator on the Turner Cable News Network, told viewers that members of veterans' organizations are not just people who wear "funny hats" and show up on national holidays waving flags. They do a lot more, he said. "They sponsor countless athletic programs for boys and girls. They help in the schools. They sponsor oratorial contests. They visit the sick and aged. They honor the dead at funerals every day. They support medical research. They participate in debates on national issues."

SERVICE

Some 2.3 million veterans received Veterans Administration compensation checks last year, totalling \$9 million for that fiscal year. Each check ranged from a low of \$62 for those with 10% disabilities to a high of \$3,461 for veterans with certain severe disabilities. For 100% disability, not involving major amputations or loss of limbs' use, maximum compensation is \$1,213 a month. Veterans with disabilities rated at 30% or more a month get extra amounts for dependents, according to their number and degree of disability. The \$9 billion cost of compensation was more than a third of the VA's budget. Combined with pensions, payments to veterans with disabilities not related to military service, total is \$13.9 billion, more than half the VA's annual budget.

* * *

As Commander-in-Chief, James R. Currieo pledged support for a bill that would grant a special pension for all World War I veterans. "It is a matter of record that the VFW has supported a separate service pension for these veterans for many years because they did not receive benefits similar to those granted veterans of later wars," he said in one of his last pre-National Convention statements. He noted that WWI veterans were the ones who fought for the GI Bill for World War II veterans. Resolution 606, embodying support for the pension, was adopted by the Convention. Approximately 317,000 surviving veterans would benefit.

We Can; We Will

(Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., was elected to this highest VFW office on Aug. 19 on the final day of the 84th National Convention in New Orleans. This is the text of his acceptance speech.)

My wonderful comrades and sisters, ladies and gentlemen, you have extended to me an honor and a trust that come to very few Americans.

I pledge to you, before Almighty God, that my every waking moment will be spent seeking to justify both this humbling honor and your grant of trust.

Plain for all to hear, I'm a Massachusetts Yankee.

I now ask my good comrades in the Western, Big Ten and Southern Conferences to bear with me for just a moment as I make three fast, up front points.

First: Thank you, Mattapan Post 8699, my home Post, for backing me all the way. I promise you that when my time comes to rejoin you on a full-time basis, my hat size will be the same as when I left. After all, I want my old friends to be with me. Someone has to listen to my that's-how-it-was stories.

Second: Thanks and thanks again, to the great State of Massachusetts and to all the great VFW leaders produced by the Bay State. You have shown me the way. I shall never forget you.

Third: Finally, my gratitude to the Eastern States Conference whose support for my candidacy made this day possible.

The only way I can ever pay you all back is by giving my heart and soul to the job at hand. And this I will do, I again promise you.

My words to you this morning will be brief, blunt and to the point. All of us will be judged by what, together, we do; not by what I say.

And what will we do as, united and

proud, we move "to greater heights?" Well, for starters:

We will continue our no-holds-barred support for the Vietnam veteran. As for Agent Orange, we will intensify our push for service connected compensation where a veteran's dis-



Moments before delivering his acceptance speech, Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson waves to Convention delegates. With him is his wife, Lee.

ease or disability can be reasonably presumed to have been caused by the dioxin associated with Agent Orange.

To the more than 500,000 Vietnam veterans in our proud organization, we say: You must know by now that your VFW has fought your fight, is fighting your fight and will continue to do so, non-stop.

Let us go for 1 million Vietnam veterans on board over the year ahead.

Impossible?

We'll never know until we try. Certainly, if every Vietnam veteran signs up one new comrade, this "impossible" goal will be easily exceeded.

For my part, I'm sick and tired of being told that the VA Administrator doesn't need to be in the President's cabinet to do his job. Twenty-eight and one half million veterans equal 28.5

million reasons why this situation must change.

Just think for a moment. The Secretary of Education is a cabinet member. Yet, most education costs are paid for by local taxes.

The VA Administrator, on the other hand, manages an annual federal budget of over \$25 billion and serves a constituency that stood tall for all of America and to whom all of America owes an enduring debt.

Let's add a chair to the White House cabinet room for our guy—the VA Administrator and let's get it real close to the President.

Some years back, our VFW hit the political war path and wound up saving the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee as a standing committee of the United States Senate. Well, the old shell game on Capitol Hill continues as there is a renewed effort to abolish the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Well, they can forget about it. It did not work a few years back and it sure won't work now.

Sen. Edward Zorinsky, of Nebraska, is leading the charge in the Senate to keep the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee as a separate standing committee. And for some of you who may still wonder why we have a political action committee, Sen. Zorinsky scored a perfect 100—14 for 14—on our 1982 Political Action Committee score card and, of course, received our endorsement.

Believe me, my comrades and sisters, the VFW-PAC is "where it's at." With your support, 89% of our 1980 endorsees won; the comparable figure for 1982 climbed to an incredible 91%.

Of course, we will continue to have an aggressive, call-em-as-we-see-'em PAC. Here, we fight and win, not for ourselves alone, but for all 28.5 million living American veterans.

I don't expect thanks from many
(continued on page 66)

The Best For Americans

Critics of national defense who cloak their arguments with objections to the practicality of some weapons or their cost were scored by Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger at the Distinguished Guests Banquet Monday night, Aug. 15.

Weinberger's remarks followed the presentation of the Dwight David Eisenhower Distinguished Service Award, the VFW's highest, by Commander-in-Chief James R. Currieo.

The \$1,000 accompanying the award will be turned over to the VFW National Home, Currieo announced.

Weinberger said critics of national defense who argue the nation is not worth defending do not bother him because they can be answered by the "struggling people of Poland, by the freedom fighters of Afghanistan and Cambodia and by the boatloads of refugees from Cuba and Vietnam."

"The real danger comes from another sort of critic—the one who professes to support a strong defense and pays lip service to the need for rebuilding our defenses and then undercuts this effort by proposing alternative policies which would actually have the effect of weakening our forces," Weinberger said.

"I am not suggesting that all discussion cease—indeed we encourage a healthy debate of our policies. But we should not be fooled by those who mask their true intentions of cutting back on our strength with claims that they support a strong defense.

"I call these critics the 'Defense Buts' because they always begin their attacks on the President's program with the phrase 'I am for a strong defense, but.' Yes, they will admit that the military

balance has been tipping against us. But they prefer to find some excuse for not really supporting defense.

"They will point to procurement problems as a reason for cutting vital defense needs, without mentioning

ning through all the "Defense Buts" arguments is support for a weapon system that does not exist, and may never.

"That enables them to be against the President's vitally needed programs

while at the same time offering to be big defense supporters and thus trying to appeal to all the voters," he said. "Fortunately, this group does not constitute a majority of the Congress."

Weinberger said Americans must ask what the troops are being asked to defend, what are the threats facing them and what equipment do they need to do the job?

Because the U.S. is what Weinberger called an "island nation," it requires open sea lanes throughout the world to reach its markets and obtain raw materials.

"So, we must be able to go wherever and whenever the interests of peace and freedom demand," he explained. "The next time someone tells you we have too many commitments for our resources I suggest you ask why are they always against increasing our resources and what should we give up? NATO and the defense of Europe? Korea? Japan? The Mid-East? The Caribbean and the defenses of continental United States?"

The greatest threat to American Armed Forces comes from the "military power and expansionist policy of the Soviet Union," he continued. Compensating for Soviet numerical advantage is the Americans' superior technology and their courage, morale and training as well as the "inestimable advantage that 200 years of freedom have given to each of us."

(continued on page 20)



Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger, recipient of the Dwight David Eisenhower Distinguished Service Award, poses with Commander-in-Chief James R. Currieo at the Distinguished Guests Banquet at which the award was presented.

that it was this Administration that uncovered these procurement problems and that we are correcting them now.

"Or they will argue that we should get more, cheaper and simpler equipment without explaining where we will find the additional troops it would take to operate the larger force this less sophisticated equipment would require."

Weinberger's comments came in the wake of the publication of several best-selling and widely reviewed books by defense critics who have argued in this vein and concluded that Soviet armed forces are so shot through with alcoholism and incompetence that their threat is less dangerous than depicted.

Weinberger said the one thread run-

Billy Ray Cameron Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief

Billy Ray Cameron, of Sanford, N.C., was elected Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States at the 84th National Convention in New Orleans.

Cameron, born Feb. 6, 1944, in Sanford, is the first Vietnam veteran to be selected for a top National VFW leadership office.

As Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, the office to which he was elected at the 83rd National Convention in Los Angeles, Cameron gave the major address last November at the dedication of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington.

He served with the U.S. Marine Corps in the Southeast Asia war zone from August, 1967, to March, 1968, in the Da Nang area of Vietnam.

While a member of the 1st Marine Division, he received two meritorious combat promotions and became a squad leader. He earned the Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster for wounds suffered in combat.

Since July 1, 1971, Cameron has

been employed with the Sanford-Lee County Office of Civil Preparedness as a coordinator.

A graduate of Oak Hill Academy High School at Mouth of Wilson, Va., he attended Wingate Junior College and North Carolina State College following his wartime military service.

Cameron, who first joined the VFW while in a hospital bed at Camp Lejeune, N.C., has been a member of VFW Post 5631 in Sanford since 1968 where he won honors as an All American Post Commander in 1973. He went on to become an All American Department of North Carolina Commander in 1975. Additionally, he was elected to the National Council of Administration in August, 1977.

In 1972, Cameron won the title of North Carolina Disabled Veteran of the Year. In 1976, Gov. James E. Holshouser, Jr., appointed him to the North Carolina Veterans Commission for a four-year term. He was reappointed by Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr. He served as the chairman of the North

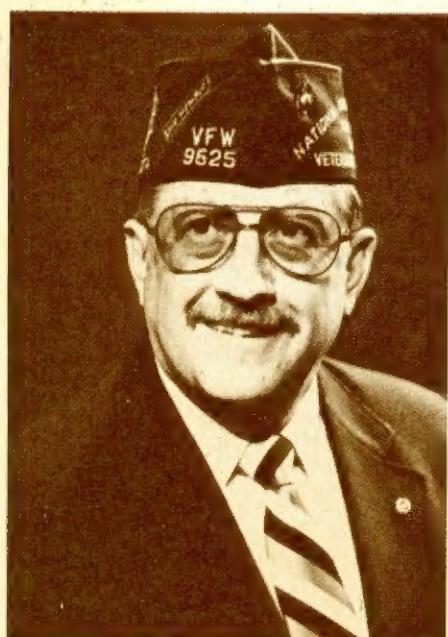


Carolina Veterans Council in 1976-77.

Other fraternal and civic organizations he is a member of include the Masons, the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, the Optimist Club, the Elks and the Moose.

Married to the former Jeanette Gilliam, of Sanford, he and his wife have a son, Edward, and a daughter, Leah. The family are members of the Cameron Hill Presbyterian Church.

John S. Staum Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief



John S. Staum, 52, a native and resident of Minneapolis, Minn., was elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States during the 84th National Convention in New Orleans.

For over two years, he was a pre-seminary student at St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minn., but gave up his deferment and was subsequently drafted into the Marine Corps.

Staum served with U.S. Marine Corps detachments aboard the heavy cruiser USS Bremerton and the aircraft carrier USS Princeton operating in Korean waters from April, 1952, to September, 1953.

In 1957 he joined VFW Post 9625 in Coon Rapids, Minn., and rose through various elective positions to become a two-term Post Commander from 1961

to 1963. He was elected a District Commander in 1966-67 and commanded the Department of Minnesota in 1970-71 when he earned All-American honors.

For the next 12 years, Staum served on the National Voice of Democracy, Safety, National Security and Community Activities Committees. In 1972 and 1977, he was chairman of the VFW National Convention Corp.

Staum is president of the Glenmar Company, a sub-contracting and building supply firm in Minneapolis. He is also a member of the American Legion and Marine Corps League.

Married to the former Bernadette T. Clarkin, of Montgomery, Minn., Staum has two children, Mark, a Marine Corps veteran, and Nancy, both married.

Buddy Poppy Winners



Category 1, first place to Post 7682 and Auxiliary, Mascoutah, Ill., for public promotion of Poppy Sales.



Category 3, first place to Post 8621, Alice, Texas, for artistic and decorative use of Poppies.

Category 2, first place to Post 2205, Denton, Texas, for memorial and inspirational display.



MILLION DOLLAR PAGEANT OF YOUTH IN MUSIC

Herald trumpets blared and snare drums resounded with quick-stepping tempos as hundreds of participants in the Million Dollar Pageant of Youth in Music competition vied for top honors.

(continued on page 16)



Best Performing Majorette Drum and Baton Corps, Parade Competition. *Rockettes*, Post 3979, Cloquet, Minn.



Best Senior Ladies Drill Team, Parade Competition. *The Golden Eaglettes*, Post 6691, Fraser, Mich.



Best Junior Band, Field Competition; Best Junior Color Guard, Field Competition, and Best Performing Junior Band, Parade Competition. *Santa Ana Winds*, Post 1373, Anaheim, Calif.



Best Appearing Senior Men's VFW Color Guard, Parade Competition. *Imperial Knights*, Post 4789, North East, Pa.



Best Appearing Senior Ladies VFW Auxiliary Color Guard, Parade Competition. *Proud Ladies*, Post 549, Tucson, Ariz.

Not pictured are Best Performing Senior Band, Parade Competition, *Uniontown Band*, Post 47, Uniontown, Pa.; Best Junior Girls Drill Team, Field Competition, *The Americans*, Post 9127, Des Moines, Iowa, and Best Junior Boys ROTC Rifle Drill Team, Field Competition, *Blue Knights*, Post 9127, Des Moines, Iowa.

Resolutions & Amendments

Adopted by the 84th VFW National Convention

Delegates to the 1983 annual National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States in New Orleans, Aug. 12-19, adopted these By-Laws changes and resolutions which serve as mandates in guiding the VFW during 1983-84

National By-Laws

Section 1301—Amendments

Amend Section 1301, National By-Laws, by deleting the words "in the official journal of the Organization" in the first sentence of the first paragraph thereof.

Section 216—Officers, Elected and Appointed

Amend Section 216, National By-Laws, by deleting subparagraph (c) in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following as subparagraph (c):

"Post Officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility for the files of the Post Adjutant prior to their installation following their election or appointment. Such proof of eligibility records shall be open to the membership of the Post. Post Officers, elected and appointed, shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until such proof of eligibility is in the files of the Post Adjutant."

Section 316—County Council Officers, Elected and Appointed

Amend Section 316, National By-Laws, by deleting the last paragraph in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following paragraph:

"County Council Officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility for the files of the County Council Adjutant prior to their installation following their election or appointment. Such proof of eligibility records shall be open to the membership of the County Council. County Council Officers, elected and appointed, shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until such proof of eligibility is in the files of the County Council Adjutant."

Section 414—District Officers, Elected and Appointed

Amend Section 414, National By-Laws, by deleting subparagraph (c) in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following as subparagraph (c):

"District Officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility for the files of the District Adjutant prior to their installation following their election or appointment. Such proof of eligibility records shall be open to the membership of the District. District Officers, elected and appointed, shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until such proof of eligibility is in the files of the District Adjutant."

Section 515—Department Officers, Elected and Appointed

Amend Section 515, National By-Laws, by deleting subparagraph (c) in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following as subparagraph (c):

"Department Officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility for the files of the Department Adjutant prior to their installation following their election or appointment. Such proof of eligibility records shall be open to the membership of the Department. Department Officers, elected and appointed, shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until such proof of eligibility is in the files of the Department Adjutant."

Section 608—Officers, Elected and Appointed

Amend Section 608, National By-Laws, by deleting subparagraph (c) in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following as subparagraph (c):

"National Officers, elected and appointed, shall submit proof of eligibility for the files of the Adjutant General prior to their installation following their election or appointment. Such proof of eligibility records shall be open to the membership of the organization. National Officers, elected and appointed, shall not be installed or assume the duties of their office until such proof of eligibility is in the files of the Adjutant General."

(continued on page 18)



Best Appearing Junior Color Guard, Parade Competition. *Vagueros*, Post 2048, Elmhurst, Ill.



Best Performing Junior Drum and Bugle Corps, Parade Competition. *Crimson Cadets*, Department of Nebraska.



Best Performing Junior Drum and Bugle Corps, Field Competition. *Royal Grenadiers*, Post 6502, Bradley, Ill.

Manual of Procedure

Section 803—Uniforms, Badges and Insignia

Amend Section 803, Manual of Procedure, by deleting the words "or optional color known as 'officers' pink', U.S.A. shade 61" at the end of the first sentence of the first paragraph thereof titled Official Uniform.

Amend Section 803 further by deleting the words "or pink U.S.A. shade 61" at the end of the first sentence of the eighth paragraph thereof.

Amend Section 803 further by deleting in its entirety the first sentence of the fourteenth paragraph thereof.

Amend Section 803 further by deleting the word "enameled" in the first sentence and the word "enameled" in the second sentence of the 17th paragraph thereof titled Officer's Bar.

- R-1. Add Commemorative Dates to Ritual
- R-2. Add Pearl Harbor Day Prayer to VFW Ritual
- R-3. Prayer—Opening Post Ceremonies
- R-6. Amend VFW Ritual

Americanism and Community Activities

101. Support and Promote Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program

102. National Day of Observance—Loyalty Day

107. Prisoner of War Day

General Resolutions

301. Cooperation with National and State Organizations to Promote Youth, Safety and Patriotic Programs

303. Right to Bear Arms

306. Return to the English Language

308. Commemorative Stamp for Korean War Veterans

National Security and Foreign Affairs

401. The UN: The Free Ride Ends

402. Strengthen the U.S. Customs Service

404. A Spaceborne Defense

405. Reorganize the Joint Chiefs of Staff

407. National Strategy of Peace Through Strength

408. Defeat Terrorism

409. Assured Access to Schools by Military Recruiters

410. Defeat the UN-Sponsored "Law of the Sea" Treaty

411. Support the Proposed Seven-year Civil Defense Buildup

412. Assure the Flow of Undiluted Military Advice to the President and the Congress

414. Prevent U.S. Adherence to the United Nations Genocide Treaty

415. Refugees and Illegal Aliens in the United States

417. The VFW's Enduring Commitment to American Defense Primacy

418. America's Prisoners of War and Missing in Action: A Non-Negotiable Matter of Honor

419. The VFW: Anti-Communist, Pro-Freedom, Pro-American and Proud Of It

421. Non-Stop VFW Support for the CIA and FBI

422. The U.S. Military: A Calling Not a Job

423. Preserve the U.S. Coast Guard

424. Continue the POW/MIA Subcommittee of the National Security Committee

425. Restore American Primacy in Central America, the Caribbean and South America

426. Continue to Deny Southern Africa to Communist Military Imperialism

427. Return to a Fair and Loophole-Free Draft As Soon As Possible

428. Aid the Afghan Freedom Fighters and Refugees

429. Keep Up the Pressure on Communist Cuba

430. Shoring Up the Middle East

431. Extremely Low Frequency

437. Fort De Russy Military Reservation

438. Selective Service Registration

439. Absentee Ballot Reform

440. Unwavering U.S. Support for the Republic of Korea

441. Support for the Republic of China on Taiwan

442. Special Pay

443. Priority One, United States of America

444. No Women Trained for or Placed in Combat Related Jobs

451. VFW Designate the "Red Ribbon" for Concern for POW/MIA's

YOUTH IN MUSIC

(continued from page 16)



Best Junior Girls Rifle Drill Team and Best Girls ROTC Rifle Drill Team, Field Competition. *The Stingrays*, Post 9249, Grand Island, N.Y.



Best Senior Men's Color Guard and Best Junior Boys Rifle Drill Team, Field Competition. *Springfield Rifles*, Post 1031, Springfield, Ohio.



Best Appearing VFW Auxiliary Marching Unit, Parade Competition. *Department of Alaska*.

(continued on page 20)

- 454. Support the Solomon Amendment
- 455. The Panama Canal
- 456. Oppose Homosexual and Lesbian Acceptance in the Military and Government
- 463. Strengthen the Conventional Defenses of Western Europe
- 464. Support the Nicaraguan "Contras"
- 465. Nuclear "Freeze" No! Peace Through Strength Yes!
- 466. Halt Shocking Waste in Pentagon Spare Parts Procurement

Veterans Service

- 601. Herbicide Exposure
- 602. Judicial Review
- 603. Radiation Exposure Medical Treatment and Compensation
- 604. VA Examination Procedure for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorders
- 605. Restoration of Payment Date for Hospitalized Service Connected Veterans
- 606. World War I Pension
- 607. Geriatric and Extended Care
- 608. Correction Boards
- 609. Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP)
- 610. Veterans' Preference
- 613. Prescription Medication for Chronic Disability
- 614. VRA Appeal Process
- 615. Senate Reorganization
- 616. Contracting Out
- 617. Lobby Reform Legislation
- 618. GI Life Insurance for Vietnam-era Veterans
- 619. Mortgage Insurance for Disabled Veterans
- 620. VA Home Loan Assistance
- 621. New Legislative Initiatives
- 622. Peacetime "GI Bill"
- 623. Vietnam Era "GI Bill"
- 624. Renaming Kansas V.A. Facilities
- 625. Designate VA Medical Center in Altoona as "James E. Van Zandt Veterans Administration Medical Center"
- 626. Ten Year Protection Period for Service Connected Disability Evaluations
- 628. Increase Disability Compensation for Disabled Veterans
- 629. Review of Kenneth Koon's Military Record
- 630. Retention of Ft. Meade VA Medical Center
- 634. Replacement of Veterans Administration Medical Center, Allen Park, Michigan
- 635. Issuance of Expeditionary Forces Medal
- 636. Establish Definition of Disabled Veteran
- 645. Extend Authorization for Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
- 646. Calling for a Spinal Cord Injury Center in Arizona Instead of Utah
- 651. To Revert From Annualization to Calendar Year Under PL95 588
- 653. Acceptance of a Notary Seal
- 663. Retain VA As Independent Agency
- 664. Opposition to Proposals Offsetting Payments of Federal Benefits
- 665. Opposition to Inclusion of VA Hospital System in any National Health Insurance Plan
- 667. Amend Title 38 U.S. Code 641
- 668. Increase Fee Limitations
- 670. Clothing Allowance for Veterans with Service Connected Skin Conditions
- 672. Oppose Consolidation of VA Regional Offices
- 673. "Poverty Line"
- 674. Amend Title 38, U.S. Code, Section 3012
- 678. Opposition to Closing of Montgomery VA Hospital
- 679. Employment Service Funding
- 681. Naming of VA Medical Center, Iowa City, Iowa
- 682. Oppose Flat Grave Markers for National Cemeteries
- 683. Create A Department of Veterans Affairs
- 685. Establish Memorial Honoring Men Lost on U.S.S. Liberty
- 687. Mandatory Counseling by Licensed Hospitals
- 688. Federal Surplus Land
- 691. Women Entitled to Medical Benefits
- 694. Improved Pension Plan for Married Eligible Veterans
- 695. Veterans Administration Medical Center, San Francisco Nursing Home Care Unit
- 696. Veterans Administration Nursing Home Care Facility Space Criteria

(continued on page 58)

Best For Americans

(continued from page 8)

Weinberger listed the Soviet superiority as 184 divisions, 4 million Warsaw Pact troops compared to NATO's 2.6 million, four times as many tanks, three times as many anti-tank missiles, artillery pieces and rocket launchers, twice as many tactical combat aircraft and more than three times as many attack submarines.

Calling it unfair to deprive American Armed Forces of the equipment they need to defend freedom's far-

flung barricades, Weinberger said if cheaper and simpler weapons can be obtained, they should be so long as Americans are not sent into battle with weapons inferior to their opponents.

"All of us here tonight have seen too much of war in our lifetimes and have seen too many of our comrades fall in battle," he concluded. "I think you will agree with me that we owe them a special debt not to increase their ranks because we were unwilling to pay the price of providing today's generation with the best equipment we could build."

NFW

YOUTH IN MUSIC

(continued from page 18)



Best Appearing VFW Marching Unit, and Best Appearing Men's VFW Drill Team, Parade Competition. Department of Massachusetts and Post 2017, Dedham, Mass.



Best Senior Ladies Color Guard, Field Competition. Saucy Sailors, 7th District Auxiliary, Minneapolis, Minn.



Best Appearing Drill Team, Parade Competition. Accents of Sheboygan, Post 9156, Sheboygan, Wis.

National Officers, 1983-84



**CLIFFORD G.
OLSON, JR.**

Commander-in-Chief



**BILLY RAY
CAMERON**

*Senior Vice
Commander-in-Chief*



JOHN STAUM

*Junior Vice
Commander-in-Chief*



**HOWARD E.
VANDER CLUTE, JR.**

Adjutant General



J.A. CHEATHAM

Quartermaster General



THOMAS J. RUSSELL

Judge Advocate General



**DR. JOHN BOYD
COATES**

Surgeon General



**REV. KENNETH D.
KILLIN**

National Chaplain



**RAYMOND D.
BRENNAN**

Chief of Staff



CHARLES SULLIVAN

Inspector General

General Orders

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States

General Orders No.1

Having been elected Commander-in-Chief and having been installed in office in accordance with the By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, I hereby assume command.

The following officers having been duly elected and installed by the 84th National Convention will be accorded the recognition due them:

Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief: Billy Ray Cameron, Post 5631, Sanford, N.C.; Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief: John S. Staum, Post 9625, Coon Rapids, Minn.; Quartermaster General: J.A. Cheatham, Post 869, Kansas City, Kans.; Judge Advocate General: Thomas J. Russell, Post 3679, Park Ridge, Ill.; Surgeon General: Dr. John H. Coates, Jr., Post 7418, Gap, Pa.; National Chaplain: Rev. Kenneth D. Killin, Post 3429, Toledo, Wash.; National Council Members: District No. 1, Robert C. Jordan, Post 1841; Rumford, Maine; District No. 3, Manuel V. Oliver, Post 329, Cranston, R.I.; District No. 5, James J. Thiel, Post 717, St. John, Ind.; District No. 7, Otha M. Kerr, Jr., Post 5266, Morristown, Tenn.; District No. 9, Hollie Smith, Post 4488, Grenada, Miss.; District No. 11, Monte D. Hanson, Post 1621, Janesville, Wis.; District No. 13, William H. Taylor, Sr., Post 5543, Oakland, Neb.; District No. 15, Manuel Evaro, Post 4384, Anthony, N.M.; District No. 17, Howard Fite, Post 7398, Magna, Utah; District A, Thomas J. Dougherty, Post 3474, Dunmore, Pa.; District B, James W. Felton, Post 5535, Chicago, Ill.; District C, Samuel C. Pilato, Post 307, Rochester, N.Y.; *District F, James N. Goldsmith, Post 5666, Flushing, Mich.; District G, George S. Bellon, Post 3788, San Diego, Calif.; District I, Arthur Morin, Post 2692, Mount Holly, N.J.; Past Commander-in-Chief, James R. Currie, Post 9872, Ft. Huachuca, Ariz. *Resigned, effective Sept. 1, 1983

All previous appointments having expired are declared null and void.

The following appointments approved by the National Council of Administration are hereby announced:
Adjutant General: Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr., Post 6467, Bergenfield, N.J.; Chief of Staff: Raymond D. Brennan, Jr., Post 8950, W. Lanham Hills, Md.; Inspector General: Charles H. Sullivan, Post 7353, N. Cambridge, Mass.; Assistant Adjutant General and Executive Direc-

tor, Washington Office: Cooper T. Holt, Post 1299, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Assistant Adjutant General, Administrative: Edward L. Burnham, Post 1724, Willimantic, Conn.; Assistant Adjutant General, Programs: Curtis M. Jewell, Post 1090, Warren, Ohio; Assistant Quartermaster General: Herbert W. Irwin, Post 5789, Lee's Summit, Mo.; Director, Public Relations: Wade W. LaDue, Post 6603, Blue Springs, Mo.; Director, Publications: John L. Smith, Post 1391, Racine, Wis.; Director, Americanism and Community Activities: Raymond N. Price, Post 8100, Grandview, Mo.; Director, Post Development and Safety: Joseph D. Ross, Post 2048, Elmhurst, Ill.; Director, Membership: W. Benny Bachand, Post 4287, Orlando, Fla.; Director, Post Services and Buddy Poppy John J. Senk, Jr., Post 336, Cranford, N.J.; Director, Voice of Democracy and Youth Activities: Lawrence LeFebvre, Post 552, Lincoln Park, Mich.; National Service Officer & Director, National Veterans Service: Frederico Juarbe, Jr., Post 401, Albuquerque, N.M.; Assistant Director, National Veterans Service: Fred A. Von Rembow, Post 8493, Omro, Wis.; Director, National Legislative Service: Donald H. Schwab, Post 3150, Arlington, Va.; Director, National Security and Foreign Affairs: E. Phelps Jones, Post 3150, Arlington, Va.; Director, Public Affairs: Washington Office: Thorne H. Marlow, Post 5352, Kernersville, N.C.; Director, Emblem and Supply Department: James Bowden, Post 869, Kansas City, Kans.; Director, Purchasing and Life Membership: Joe Ridgley, Post 1000, Independence, Mo.; Director, Insurance Programs: Wayne Rom, Post 6852, Des Moines, Iowa; Director, Insurance Programs: Robert Crow, Post 4027, Mount Vernon, Ohio; Director, General Services: William E. Rafiner, Post 7900, Kansas City, Mo.; Director, VFW Properties: Kansas City: Roy Shedd, Post 846, Overland Park, Kans.; Director, VFW Properties Washington, D.C.: William Callaghan, Post 5627, College Park, Md.; Director, National Convention: Arthur J. Voter, Post 3254, Buffalo, N.Y.; National Sergeant-at-Arms: Leopold R. Malysko, Post 1046, Brockton, Mass.; National Band and Drum Corps Committee: Chairman, J. Robert Brady, Post 7090, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Editor, VFW Magazine: James K. Anderson, Post 1794, Mt. Clemens, Mich.; Assistant Director, General Services: Richard Burchfield, Post 5851, Kansas City, Kans.; Associate Editor, VFW Magazine: Warren Maus, Post 1000, Independence, Mo.

5. THROUGH CHANNELS Post Commanders, County Council Commanders and District Commanders are directed to forward all resolutions or communications relative to FEDERAL LEGISLATION OR TO THE POLICY OR PROCEDURE OF THE U.S. VETERANS ADMINISTRATION, OR ANY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY, to their respective Department Headquarters for endorsement and referral to the Adjutant General. Department Commanders will not take direct action on any such resolutions or communications without first ob-

taining full knowledge of existing National Headquarters policies governing such legislation or agencies.

6. Invitations to National Officers must be forwarded through channels to the Adjutant General with approval of the Department Commander. This applies to all National Officers, and unless the above is complied with, invitations will not be given consideration.

7. DEPARTMENT RESERVE. Attention is called to Section 517, Manual of Procedure, that requires Department Quartermasters to maintain a dues reserve fund to which shall be credited not less than fifty percent (50%) of all current year's (1984) dues that he receives prior to July 1, 1984. No Department Quartermaster shall disburse nor shall an obligation be incurred against this fund until after July 1, 1984, at which time all moneys to the credit of the fund shall be transferred to the Department general fund for expenditure in accordance with the Department budget.

8. POST RESERVE. Attention is directed to Section 218, Manual of Procedure, which mandates Post Quartermasters to maintain a dues reserve fund to which shall be credited not less than one-half of the Post's part of the current year's (1984) dues paid by each member prior to July 1, 1984, except dues remitted by the Post. No Post Quartermaster shall disburse, nor shall an obligation be incurred against this fund until after July 1, 1984, at which time it shall be transferred to the Post general fund and be available for expenditure.

9. Attention of Commanders at all levels is directed to Section 703 of the National Constitution and By-Laws and Manual of Procedure which requires that each accountable officer be bonded with an indemnity company in the sum at least equal to the amount of negotiable funds for which he may be accountable.

10. Attention of Post Commanders is directed to Section 218, Manual of Procedure, Duty of Trustees, which states that Post Trustees shall prepare and submit, through their Post Commander, a Trustee Report of Audit (Supply Department Stock No. 4214) quarterly to the Department Quartermaster for referral to the Department Inspector. The first report is due at the close of September.

11. Attention of Department and Post Commanders is directed to the requirement of timely filing of Internal Revenue Form 990 and 990T, where applicable. Forms may be secured from your local Post Office or branch office of Internal Revenue Service.

12. All National Aides-de-Camp, Congressional Medal of Honor Class, who held appointments prior to Aug. 19,

(continued on page 62)

Top Leaders Honored

Major figures in the world of Congressional leadership, military service, journalistic enterprise, veterans' employment, entertainment and service to the Veterans of Foreign Wars were honored at the 84th National Convention. Here are pictures of some of them and their awards, presented by Commander-in-Chief James R. Currie.

(continued on page 26)



Hall of Fame Award goes to Pete Fountain, famed jazz musician.



USA Today News Media Award is accepted by Robert A. Dubill.



Gov. Joseph R. Kerrey, of Nebraska, a Vietnam War Medal of Honor recipient, accepts the Citizenship Award.



Past Commander-in-Chief Arthur Fellwock is awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.



Dr. William R. Lucas, of NASA, receives the Space Award.



Auxiliary President Florence Taylor is awarded the Medal of Merit.



U.S. Solicitor Gen. Rex E. Lee receives the Gold Medal of Merit.



Retiring VFW Buddy Poppy Director Don Bishop, Distinguished Service Medal. Center, Mrs. Bishop.



Accepting the Certificate of Appreciation for Holsum Bakeries, Inc., leadership in veterans' employment is Harold Salmon III.



Bryan Epling accepts the Certificate of Commendation for the VFW National Home Fire Department.



Roy Hawthorne accepts the Gold Medal of Merit for the Navajo Code Talkers Association.



The VFW J. Edgar Award goes to Alfred C. McMaster, of the District of Columbia Police Department. Center is Mrs. McMaster.



Chong Hwan Kim, president of the Korean Veterans Association, receives the Gold Medal of Merit. Gen. Cheng Wei-yuan, chairman of the Nationalist Chinese Vocational Assistance Commission for Retired Servicemen, was awarded a similar medal.



Retired Navy Capt. Albert Schaufelberger accepts the Armed Forces Award on behalf of his son, the late Lt. Cmdr. Albert Schaufelberger III, killed in El Salvador. Mrs. Schaufelberger is in the center.



Ann Mills Griffiths receives the Gold Medal of Merit for the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia.



Rep. Thomas A. Daschle (R) with his Certificate of Appreciation. VFW officers are Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron, Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief and Commander-in-Chief Currie.

Veterans Futures Discussed

Contrasting views on Agent Orange legislation, a review of veterans' bills and action in Congress and an update on Veterans Administration policies were provided delegates to the National Convention by leaders in the area of veterans' concerns.

Rep. Thomas A. Daschle (S.D.), the Vietnam veteran and member of the House Committee on Veterans Affairs who introduced HR 1961 to assist some veterans exposed to Agent Orange, called for VFW delegates to continue their support of his bill when he spoke Thursday Aug. 18.

Daschle said veteran-victims of Agent Orange from all parts of the country write him asking why they can't get help, despite evidence that dioxin kills animals in laboratory tests.

"The tragic scenario of Vietnam is coming back," he said. "The anguish and doubt about what is wrong with them is haunting these veterans, but Washington is ignoring them and they can't get help."

In appearances before Congressional committees, Daschle continued, "they have pleaded for help and to bring this nightmare of the Vietnam War to an end."

Convention delegates adopted Resolution 601, endorsing "liberalizing criteria for proper disposition of herbicide related claims, to include placing the burden of proof for the award of disability compensation on the government rather than on the veteran," basic provisions of HR 1961.

He also urged adoption by Congress of judicial review of veterans' claims rejected by the VA, greater consideration of veterans exposed to nuclear radiation while in the service and additional planning for the influx of aging veterans who will need VA care in coming years.

For his efforts on behalf of Vietnam veterans through introduction of HR 1961, Rep. Daschle received from Commander-in-Chief James R. Currie the VFW Certificate of Appreciation.

Sen. Alan K. Simpson (Wyo.), who chairs the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, cautioned against hasty

Heart disease or stroke can cheat you out of the best years of your life.

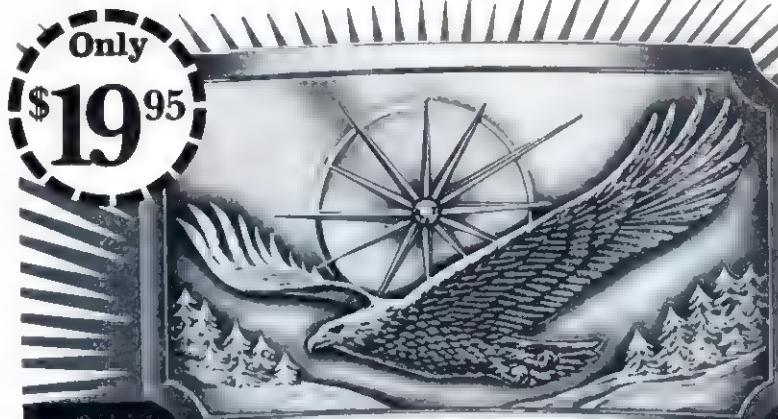
You can help us save young lives by sending your dollars today to your local Heart Association, listed in your telephone directory.

American Heart Association

WE'RE FIGHTING FOR YOUR LIFE

AMERICAN EAGLE

DIAMOND BELT BUCKLE



**Electroplated
with
SILVER**

**Hand Decorated
with
24K GOLD**

**Set with
a genuine
DIAMOND**

An individually numbered, Registered Limited Edition

Every American is proud of our nation, and proud of the great American Eagle, symbol of our country's vigilance and strength. Now, master craftsmen have created an exclusive Eagle Belt Buckle every patriotic American will wear with honor and pride.

**Buckle Will Not Be Produced
After Dec. 31, 1983**

Each buckle will be individually crafted in an exclusive limited edition — electroplated with silver, with 24-karat gold applied to the surface of the eagle and rim. In addition, each buckle will be set with a hand-cut and polished .25 pt. genuine diamond with 17 fiery facets! And, to protect the integrity of this limited edition, the dies will be destroyed at the end of this year.

Registered in Official Archives

Each buckle will be individually numbered and the name of each original owner will be permanently registered in the Official Archives of International Mint. Each buckle will be delivered to you with a Certificate of Authenticity

in a special Collector's Presentation Case.

Wear this authentic collector's buckle as a striking fashion accessory and unmistakable symbol of your love for your country. Then, hand it on to become a treasured heirloom as well. Your satisfaction is assured by our unlimited money back guarantee.

Order Early For Coveted Lower Serial Numbers

Since registry numbers are assigned to each order as it is received, we strongly urge that you order promptly to receive the lower numbers that are still available. Limit five (5) buckles per request.



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Regular Retail Value \$12.95

Actual Size

For Credit Card Orders, Call Toll Free: **1-800-345-8500.**

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Please send me the **Genuine Diamond American Eagle Belt Buckle(s)** indicated below on your money-back guarantee of satisfaction (except shipping and handling of course).

- One buckle just \$19.95 plus \$1.75 p&h
- SAVE \$6.40! Two buckles just \$35 plus \$2.00 p&h
- SAVE \$15.10! Three buckles just \$50.00 postpaid
- SAVE \$33.50! Limit of five buckles just \$75.00 postpaid
- I AM ORDERING WITHIN 11 DAYS, SEND ME ONE (1) FREE AMERICAN EAGLE SILVER INGOT WITH EACH BUCKLE ORDERED (LIMIT 5)

Enclosed is my check or money order in the full amount for \$ _____
(Pa. res add 6% sales tax)

CHARGE IT: VISA MasterCard
 Amex Diners Club Expires _____

Card # _____

Signature _____

Print Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____
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Distinguished Guests



Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief-elect John Staum, Mrs. Staum, Past Commander-in-Chief Ray Soden.



Mrs. Weinberger, Mrs. Currieo, Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger, Commander-in-Chief James R. Currieo.



Secretary Weinberger, Mrs. Weinberger, Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron, Mrs. Cameron.



Sen. Alan K. Simpson, Adjutant Gen. Howard E. Vander Clute, Jr.



Vander Clute, VA Administrator Harry Waters, Gen. John Flynn, Mrs. Flynn.



National Chaplain Austin J. Henry, Alfred C. McMaster, Mrs. McMaster.



Secretary Weinberger, Mrs. Weinberger, Past Commander-in-Chief Richard L. Roudebush.



Olson, Auxiliary Sr. Vice President Harriet Timmons.



Capt. Albert Schaufelberger, Mrs. Schaufelberger, Rear Adm. W.D. Daniels.



Don Bishop, Secretary Weinberger.



Cameron, Sen. Simpson.

MAIL CALL



Past Commander-in-Chief Arthur Fellwock,
Secretary Weinberger, Mrs. Weinberger, Mrs.
Fellwock.



Olson, Gen. Chong Hwan Kim, Mrs. Timmons,
Past Commander-in-Chief H.R. Rainwater.



Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Clifford G.
Olson, Jr., Sen. Simpson.



Olson, Mrs. Olson, Larry W. Rivers, Walters.



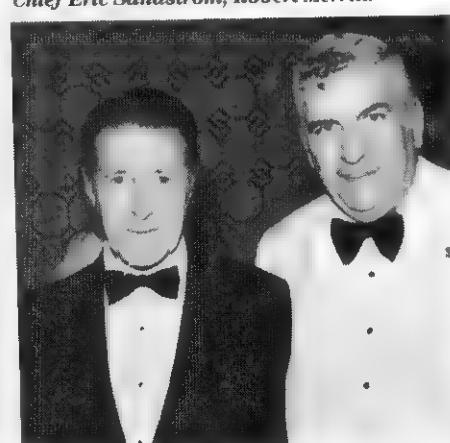
Maj. Gen. Roy Moss, Past Commanders-In-Chief Eric Sandstrom, Robert Merrill.



NCA Member Robert Larson, Past
Commander-in-Chief Leslie Fry.



NCA Member Paul Jolovich, Sen. Simpson.



Secretary Weinberger, Olson.

Thanks From VVLP

On behalf of the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program and, particularly, the Louisiana Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program, I want to thank you and the entire membership of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary for their cooperation and assistance. The Veterans of Foreign Wars' support of the Vietnam veteran is truly magnificent and the message has to be carried throughout the United States to the Vietnam veteran to join the Veterans of Foreign Wars to protect his rights and benefits and those of all veterans.—William E. Ryan, Chairman, 221 Carondelet St., New Orleans, La. 70130.

Kennedy Tapes

VFW Posts planning commemorations of the 20th anniversary of President John F Kennedy's assassination may obtain from me at no cost, except for postage and handling, tape recordings of "Taps" played at his funeral.—George Gregory, 1470 Circle Drive, Apt. 304, Pontiac, Mich. 48055.

Nancy Hlibok, 11 years old is deaf. She studies ballet at the Joffrey Ballet School.

President's Committee on
Employment of the Handicapped,
Washington, D.C. 20210

aides-de-camp

The following V.F.W. members have distinguished themselves by winning appointments as National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class, during the month of July, 1983. (To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the dues of at least 50 new and/or reinstated members.)

Jerry D. Lynxwiler, Post 3486, Doniphan, Mo.; Lee Moore, Post 10592, Bamberg, Germany; S. Frank Cloud, Post 4848, Chattanooga, Tenn.; Jim Stacy, Post 9400, Sunnyslope, Ariz.; Quentin J. Goodrich, Post 591, Wallingford, Conn.; Ruben A. Johnson, Post 2226, Oakhurst, N.J.; and Ray Vacca, Post 2264, Ozone Park, N.Y.

Auxiliary Breaks Records

Membership totals 685,733, as \$2,268,967 is raised for Cancer Aid and Research, \$5,398,770 given to Rehabilitation, 3,000,000 hours donated to Hospital, VAVS Program. Celebrities honored at Convention for service to others.

An all-time high in attendance was set by the more than 4,000 Ladies Auxiliary members who took part in the 70th National Convention at the Marriott Hotel in New Orleans this year.

During the convention, which concluded Florence Taylor's term as National President, members were recognized for outstanding program achievements such as the recruitment of 17,490 new members to bring the total membership to 685,733, as well as for raising \$2,268,967 for the Cancer Aid and Research Program, donating more than 3 million hours in the Hospital and VAVS Program and contributing \$5,398,770 to the Rehabilitation Program and numerous other accomplishments.

Honored were three student scholarship winners, all residents of Pennsylvania. Outstanding Junior Girl of the year is Myra Miller, of Barnesboro, who was presented with a \$1,500 scholarship. Paul Schmalz, of Milford, won \$1,000 as first place winner of the Young American Patriotic Art Competition. Melissa Ann Houghton, of Sunbury, this year's Voice of Democracy winner, earned a \$14,000 scholarship from the VFW and Auxiliary.

Sister Maria Veronica was presented with the Unsung Heroine Award and \$500 for her 13 years of volunteer service in developing the Congressional Medal of Honor Memorial Exhibit at Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pa. A retired teacher, she has gathered as much information as possible on all 3,414 recipients of the medal.

Dr. Edward Krentz was presented with \$5,000 for cancer research at Tulane University and actor Dennis Cole received \$5,000 on behalf of the American Cancer Society (ACS) to be used for educational materials. Cole, who has starred in five television series, is best known for his role as Lance Prentiss on "The Young and The Rest-

less." He strongly advocates ACS's anti-smoking campaign.

Cole also received the Auxiliary's American Spirit Award for his dedica-



*Newly-elected Auxiliary National President
Harriet Timmons.*

tion to the fight against cancer. He told members that his work for ACS began as a result of the loss of a dear friend who was like a second father to him. He expressed hope that through the Auxiliary's work and ACS's efforts a cure for cancer would be found soon.

Norman Fell and Audra Lindley, appearing together for the first time since their filming of "Three's Company" and the "Ropers," were honored by the Auxiliary. Fell received \$1,000 for the Michigan Cancer Foundation and the American Patriot Award for his volunteer efforts and visit to the Armed Forces overseas.

Lindley received \$1,000 for the Cri-Help, Inc., drug abuse program and the Serve America Award for her work with that program, cerebral palsy and the Retinitis Pigmentosa Foundation.

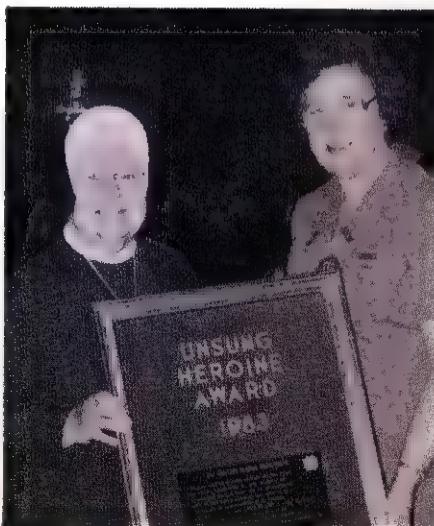
Members also welcomed Gen. Cheng

Wei-yuan, chairman of the Vocational Assistance Commission for Retired Servicemen of the Republic of China; H.C. Yen, President of the VACRS Engineering Agency; and Gen. Chong Hwan Kim, president of the Korean Veterans Association. Celia Hoke, of the Department of Defense; Buddy Poppy Girl Nicole Striegel; and representatives of the VFW National Home also were welcomed by the members.

Convention finale was the election and installation of the 1983-84 National Officers. Rallying the membership behind her theme, We Care, America, is newly elected National President Harriet Timmons, of Hugo, Colo.

Other line officers elected include Sr. Vice President Glenneta Vogelsang, of Cape Girardeau, Mo.; Jr. Vice President Lucile Suchina, of Houston, Texas; Secretary Treasurer Glenn Grossman, of Kansas City, Mo.; Chaplain Rosemary Mazer, of East Brunswick, N.J.; Conductress Joan Katkus, of Wasilla, Alaska; and Guard Mona Longly, of Lexington, Neb.

NFW



Sister Maria Veronica receives the Auxiliary's Unsung Heroine Award for her work on behalf of the Medal of Honor Exhibit at Freedoms Foundation.

RECRUIT AND WIN

Earn major awards by recruiting during July, August, September, October and November by signing up new or reinstating members for 1984.

15 BIG PRIZES

The Grand Prize is a personal computer or \$1,000. Two second prizes are 25-inch Color Console TVs or \$750. The three third prizes are Video Recorders or \$500. The four fourth prizes are five-inch portable TVs with AM/FM Radio and Cassette Recorders or \$300. The five fifth prizes are cordless telephones or \$150.

HOW TO QUALIFY

For each new or reinstating member you sign up for 1984, your Post Quartermaster will complete and forward to National Headquarters the portion of the application crediting you with recruiting the member. This same procedure will be followed for each new or reinstated member you sign up for 1984 during July, August, September, October and November.

A DRAWING WILL CHOOSE WINNERS

A drawing early in December determines prize winners. They will be notified promptly and their names published in a future issue of VFW Magazine.

CHANCES UNLIMITED

You can enter the contest each time you recruit a new or reinstating member. There is no limit to the number of chances you have. The more you recruit, the more chances you have to win one of these valuable prizes. Get started right now by detaching the application below and recruiting a member for your Post. Then pick up more applications from your Post Quartermaster and continue with your campaign. You could be one of the lucky recruiter winners.

OBLIGATION

In the presence of Almighty God, I do, of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise and declare that: I will bear true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and I will always be loyal thereto, and will never bear arms, nor in any way use my influence against its Laws or Institutions.

I will comply with the Constitution, By-Laws and Ritual of this Order; and I will always be loyal thereto; that I will never wrong or defraud this organization, nor a member thereof, nor permit any wrong to be done to either, if in my power to prevent it. I will never propose for membership any person not eligible according to our Constitution, nor one whom I know to be unworthy.

I will never make known to any one not authorized to receive it, any of the work of this Order. Should my affiliation with the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States cease, in any way, I will consider this pledge as binding outside the Order as though I had remained a member of the same. All this I promise and pledge upon the honor of a true Comrade and a citizen of our great republic.

Signed _____ Applicant

I have investigated the character and campaign medal service of the applicant and hereby endorse him/her as eligible and worthy of membership in the VFW.

CERTIFICATION

(See Sec. 104 By-Laws)
The investigating Committee has performed its duties and recommends election ____ rejection.
(Signatures of Committee Below)

CROSS OF MALTA (*The Emblem of the VFW*)

Dues shall be paid annually in advance in accordance with the calendar year. The admission fee and annual dues shall accompany the application. The annual dues of each member includes a year's subscription to *The VFW Magazine*, official organ of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.

Each applicant, upon election, will be so notified and furnished with an official dues receipt showing membership for the year for which dues have been paid.

Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States
National Headquarters
Kansas City, Mo

Committee Member

Committee Member

Committee Member

Applicant Elected _____ 19 _____

Applicant Obligated _____ 19 _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Member of Post No. _____

A Strong America Meets A Peaceful World

A ringing reaffirmation of the need for a strong United States as the safeguard of world peace highlighted the annual VFW Memorial Service at the Rivergate on Aug. 14.

The Most Rev. Philip M. Hannan, Roman Catholic archbishop of New Orleans, said:

"I believe wholeheartedly with Winston Churchill that if America had not possessed nuclear weapons, the Soviets would have invaded Europe. I believe in the deterrence of aggression by the possession of nuclear weapons."

Archbishop Hannan, one of nine Roman Catholic prelates to vote against the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' pastoral letter objecting to nuclear weapons, added, "There cannot be a feeble U.S.A. and a free U.S.A."

Citing the Declaration of Independence, Archbishop Hannan said that Americans must be willing to pay the same price to defend their freedom that the Founding Fathers pledged in establishing it.

If nothing is worth fighting to defend and mere survival is the goal, he continued, "then life itself does not matter."

Recalling a conversation he had in



The simulated graves formed a focal point at the annual Memorial Service.

Berlin with a Russian immediately after the end of World War II in Europe as a member of the 82nd Airborne Division, Archbishop Hannan said he realized how differently the Communists and Americans use the same words, like "democracy."

Before opening negotiations with the Soviets, Americans should insist

that words be used according to American meanings, if talks are to be fruitful, he said.

Since Soviet Communist leaders do not believe in God, he added, "they do not believe in the rights of the individual."

"We cannot have lasting peace unless we can agree on the price of peace," he asserted.

Archbishop Hannan quoted the late Pope Paul VI as saying at the United Nations that peace can be based only on the inalienable rights of man.

A hopeful sign is the upsurge of religious belief in the Soviet Union, Archbishop Hannan continued. Despite the years of atheistic propaganda, the Christian faith has not been destroyed but is growing.

In his invocation, Rabbi Murray Blackman, of Temple Sinai, prayed that Americans be grateful to God for all those "who have given their lives that we may live."

"Bless us with the strength to seek peace," he concluded.

The Rev. J. Paul Briscoll, minister of



Following Sgt.-at-Arms Leopold Malyszko, Archbishop Philip M. Hannan, of New Orleans, the principal speaker, leads the procession of dignitaries at the annual Memorial Service.

ans

Crescent City Baptist Church, called for prayers for the men and women in the Armed Forces "and to help us walk in righteousness."

This year's Memorial Service was dedicated to the late Rev. Robert J. McCoy, who served two terms as National Chaplain and several terms as Department of Pennsylvania Chaplain. He died July 16.

The Post 47 Band, of Uniontown, Pa., the VFW's official band, presented several musical renditions, accompa-



The National Color Guard adds further dignity to the annual Memorial Service.

ied by EA. Cassanova on the organ.

The Keesler Chorale, of Keesler Air Force Base, sang "Nearer, My God To Thee," "Sleep, Soldier Boy" and a patriotic medley, while soloist Tom Paterra, of Fred Waring's Pennsylvanians, sang "Ave Maria" and "The Lord's Prayer."

At simulated graves, Commander-in-Chief James R. Currie, assisted by National Chaplain Austin J. Henry, led the memorial ritual with National VFW and Auxiliary officers.

Adding to the solemnity of the service was the escorting of Gold Star Parents and Gold Star Wives to their place of honor by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Department of Louisiana.

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Many thousands of VFW members under age 80 already know the value of this VFW-Sponsored Term Life Protection!

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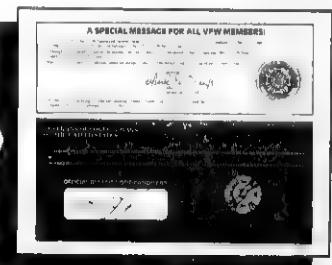
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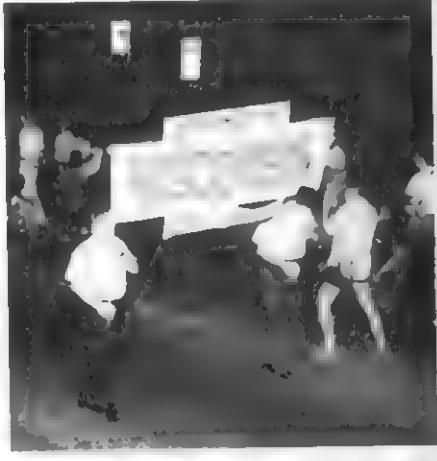
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On the March in New Orleans

Thousands lined Canal Street
to watch the VFW parade.





To Greater Heights

Speeches by President Reagan, Sen. Glenn, Secy. Weinberger, Other Notables; Awards to Leaders, Action on Vital Issues, Elections of New Officers Highlight 84th National Convention.

by James K. Anderson

From start to finish, the 84th National Convention in New Orleans was one to remember for years to come.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars recorded another consecutive year of membership growth, 28,000, and incoming Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., pledged to take the organization "To Greater Heights."

Unquestionably, the highlight of the Convention was the appearance of President Ronald Reagan, who signed a bill expanding job opportunities for unemployed Vietnam and Korean War veterans during the Joint Opening Session at the Rivergate Monday, Aug. 15.

Before signing the bill into law at the conclusion of his major address, President Reagan said:

"This bill which I am about to sign, the Emergency Veterans Job Training Act of 1982, will provide targeted job training for unemployed veterans of the Korean and Vietnam conflicts.

"The legislation is above and beyond the bipartisan jobs bill I signed earlier this year and other Administration programs to promote job opportunities for veterans.

"This bill provides incentives to employers to train veterans by defraying part of the costs of training. But this is not just a training program. The employer who participates must employ the veteran on a permanent basis after the training is completed.

"As I said earlier, the nation has a special commitment to those who have served in the military. That commitment includes not only our continuing respect, but practical assistance as

well. This program will aid veterans at the same time it aids the many small businesses that will participate."

Mr. Reagan recalled that two days earlier when he was at Fort Bliss, Texas, he felt pride in the servicemen and women lining the streets. "I feel the same way about the veterans we



Commander-in-Chief James R. Currie welcomes President Ronald Reagan to the 84th National Convention in New Orleans.

are about to help today. They did their best for us; now we must do our best for them."

After he signed the bill, he presented his pen to Commander-in-Chief James R. Currie as a memento of the occasion.

At the outset of his speech, President Reagan, noting the presence of Ann Mills Griffiths, executive director of the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, said, "We are determined to account for every serviceman who wore America's uniform in Southeast Asia. This Administration

will not forget their sacrifice and we will not rest until their families can rest."

After reviewing the United States' reassumption of free world leadership since he came into office and the strengthening of the nation's economy in the past few months, President Reagan turned to the nation's military posture.

"When I spoke to you last (Chicago, 1980), the United States had planes that couldn't fly, ships that couldn't leave port and military personnel who couldn't wait to get into civilian clothes," he said.

Things have improved since then, he said, citing the present 70% service retention record, compared to 1980's 55% and enlistment of the highest percentage of high school graduates in the nation's history. He admitted the "hard-hit economy" was a factor, but morale and pride in the service have improved.

New equipment is being added and "combat readiness rates have surged," he continued.

President Reagan asserted that waste in Defense Department purchasing was uncovered by "Cap Weinberger's people—Defense Department auditors and inspectors—who ordered the audits in the first place and conducted the investigations."

In 18 months the Defense Department has obtained 650 convictions, he added.

President Reagan urged the VFW to support the MX "and together we'll help keep America secure and free."

On the international front, President Reagan said the western alliances are stronger economically and militarily

and NATO "has stood firm in pursuing the dual objectives of arms reduction and deterrence. NATO today is more confident in its ability to preserve its strength and promote peace."

On arms negotiations with the Soviet Union, President Reagan said:

"In contrast to previous agreements, which simply dealt in ceilings, the Soviet Union now for the first time is willing to talk about actual reductions."

Turning to Central America, Mr. Reagan referred to Commander-in-Chief James R. Currie's recent fact-finding mission there and agreed with his comment that the American people "are getting a distorted view of what's actually taking place" because of the news media.

"And I don't blame the media alone, because in many cases they are just reporting the disinformation they hear coming from people who put political politics ahead of our national interests."

El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica, three countries in the region he mentioned, "are working hard to develop and defend their democracies."

Expanding on his discussion of Central America, Mr. Reagan continued:

"We support democracy, reform and human freedom. We support economic development. We support negotiations. We support any effort, any avenue, that will give the people of that region a more free and prosperous future."

"The problem in Central America is not the United States or United States

policy. We are doing everything we can to build peace and prosperity. Our Caribbean Basin Initiative is designed to help the nations there help themselves through trade and private investment. The Soviet and Cuban Caribbean Basin Initiative, on the other hand, is to brutally impose Communist rule and deny individual freedom. Do you have any doubt which initiative the people in Central America would choose?

"Because of this aggression, we also support a security shield for the area. The security shield is very much like a program that is springing up all

over the United States—the Neighborhood Watch. The Neighborhood Watch is where neighbors keep an eye on each others' homes so outside troublemakers and bullies will think twice. Well, our policy in Central America is like a Neighborhood Watch. But this watch doesn't protect someone's silverware. It protects something much more valuable—freedom.

"Our policy is to help people toward a better life—to help them toward liberty, to help them reverse centuries of inequities, to help them toward peace. And let me say with all the conviction I can muster, America would



After signing the bill, Reagan gives Currie his pen.



President Reagan signs a bill widening job opportunities for Vietnam and Korean War veterans. With him are Commander-in-Chief Currie, Quartermaster Gen. J.A. Cheatham, VA Administrator Harry N. Walters, Washington Office Executive Director Cooper T. Holt and Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr.

not be America if we abandoned the struggling neighbors of our own hemisphere."

Former astronaut and Marine Corps pilot in two wars, Sen. John H. Glenn (Ohio), a candidate for the Democratic presidential nomination, joined President Reagan in expressing the hope for an early resolution to the POW/MIA question.

"There can be no compromise," he said. "No American family should be forced to live in the agonizing twilight between hope and despair. And I know I speak for all of us when I say we must do everything humanly possible to see that every last American soldier, sailor, Marine or airman who served in Southeast Asia is fully and completely accounted for."

Glenn called for a "rational defense policy based on a coherent foreign policy." He said this is "one of the most

(continued on page 44)

neglected areas of our national security."

He said the nation cannot know which weapons to buy unless it knows what it wants to accomplish in the world and what interests it wants to defend.

Current U.S. policy, he continued, has been to develop its weapons and then its foreign policy objectives.

Western allies, he said, should do more to defend themselves, Japan must accept a greater share of the common defense burden and the U.S. "must maintain its commitment to the survival and prosperity of Israel."

"On these vital interests there is little disagreement and protecting them is expensive," he said. "But the political, economic and military concepts appropriate to Europe, the Middle East and Asia may not be relevant to defending our interests in the developing regions of the world."

Sen. Glenn said U.S. failure to "shape and guide" change in the Third World will mean abandoning it to extremists of the right and the left.

Glenn enunciated his three-point policy toward Central America:

"First, although we must recognize that most revolutions have their roots in poverty and injustice, the threat of communist subversion cannot be denied. Failing to address either of these realities would be a serious mistake.

"Second, we must always encourage the forces of justice and reform. In some instances, supplying them with generous infusions of economic assistance will be enough. Other cases may call for military support. But the nature of our intervention must always be determined on a case-by-case basis—and force should only be used as a last resort.

"Third—and most important of all—we must ensure that whatever actions we take have the support of the American people. It is they who make the sacrifices—and they deserve straight talk and clear answers. Never again should we send American troops to fight wars we do not intend to win. Never again should we embrace policies that contradict our principles."

At the Joint Opening Session, held with the Ladies Auxiliary meeting at the Marriott Hotel, Larry W. Rivers, chairman of the Convention Board of Directors, opened the Convention and turned it over to Currie, who introduced Cootie Supreme Commander

Arthur Selbo and Auxiliary President Florence Taylor. They reviewed the work done by their organizations during the 1982-83 year.

Mayor Ernest Morial, of New Orleans, and Gov. David Treen, of Louisiana, welcomed the delegates.

Accepting the Armed Forces Award from Currie for his son, Lt. Cmdr. Albert Schaufelberger III, killed in El Salvador, retired Navy Capt. Albert Schaufelberger said he died "doing



Louisiana Gov. David Treen greets delegates to his state.

what he wanted to do and he was good at it, but, Lord, how we miss him."

Currie presented the Gold Medal and Citation to Miss Griffiths on behalf of the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia.

Miss Griffiths commented on the cooperation the league has received from the Reagan Administration in attempting to resolve the POW/MIA question.

She also deplored attempts by private individuals to mount expeditions in Southeast Asia to seek prisoners or to find the missing.

Miss Griffiths was especially critical of Bo Gritz's forays into Laos and his attendant publicity as a setback to progress made with the Laotians. She cautioned against cooperating with similar non-governmental efforts.

Melissa Houghton, top 1983 Voice of Democracy winner, read her prize-win-



New Orleans Mayor Ernest Morial welcomes the VFW to the city.



Sen. John H. Glenn (Ohio), seeking the Democratic presidential nomination, details his views on foreign policy and military spending.

ning speech.

Roy Hawthorne accepted from Currie the Gold Medal and Citation for the Navajo Code Talkers Association, former Marines who used their language in radio communications to confuse the Japanese during World War II.

Gold Medals of Merit and Citations also were presented by Currie to Chong Hwan Kim, president of the Korean Veterans Association, and Gen. Cheng Wei-yuan, chairman of the Na-

tionalist Chinese Vocational Assistance Commission for Retired Servicemen.

Both appeared on Aug. 14 before the National Security and Foreign Af-



After election, Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., clasps hands with Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron and Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John Staum.

Currieo at the Distinguished Guests Banquet at the New Orleans Hilton Hotel, scene of sessions from Tuesday, Aug. 16, through Friday, Aug. 19.

The only award presented by Currieo at the Tuesday session was that to Past Commander-in-Chief Arthur Fellwock, who received the Distinguished Service Medal.

However, major speakers that day included Sen. Alan K. Simpson (Wyo.), who chairs the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee, Rep. G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery (Miss.), chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee; VA Administrator Harry Walters; Gen. John W. Vessey, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Thomas W. Pauken, whose federal agency has jurisdiction over the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program.

Pauken explained the Vietnam veterans' program as one of veterans-helping-veterans in 55 cities where it has been established. He also said the program was initiated because surveys indicated Vietnam veterans had self-esteem and this was one way in which they assist one another in readjusting

musician, was presented with the Hall of Fame Award.

U.S. Solicitor Gen. Rex E. Lee, after receiving the Gold Medal of Merit from Currieo for his success in winning the U.S. Supreme Court's reaffirmation of veterans' organizations' right to lobby Congress and retain their tax exemption, asserted that the court's decision was a recognition of the division of powers in the government since Congress had passed the lobbying legislation in the 1930s. The court also noted that veterans' service to the nation bestows a special status on them, he said.

Currieo presented the J. Edgar Hoover Award to Alfred C. McMaster, a District of Columbia master patrol officer who has taken part in some spectacular arrests by working as an undercover policeman.

A Medal of Honor recipient, amputee and Vietnam veteran, Nebraska Gov. Joseph R. Kerrey said he disagrees with some VFW positions, and it is therefore a tribute to the organization's recognition of the right to dissent that he was honored with the VFW Citizenship Award. Kerrey was a Post Commander and organizer of a Post in Lincoln, Neb.

Rear Adm. William Stewart, commander of the Eighth Coast Guard District, presented National Convention Director Arthur Vater with a Coast Guard Certificate of Appreciation for 10 years' cooperation with the service at Conventions.

A controversial amendment to the Manual of Procedure which would have made holders of the National Defense Service Medal eligible for VFW membership was defeated after lengthy arguments. Supporters contended it would widen the pool of potential members, while opponents countered that a veteran's military record does not indicate whether the medal was awarded for overseas or stateside service.

At the Thursday, Aug. 18, meeting Sgt.-at-Arms Leopold Malyszko and his staff were honored for their dedication to duty during the Convention as well as their military bearing.

Harold Salmon III, executive vice president and general manager of Holsum Bakeries, received the Certificate of Appreciation for the company's record of employing veterans.

Salmon said veterans as a group make outstanding employees.

"They have proven their commitment (continued on page 63)



Newly elected officers are sworn in at the conclusion of the 84th National Convention in New Orleans.

fairs Committee to urge the VFW to continue its support for the Republic of China on Taiwan and South Korea, as well as assisting in obtaining approval for U.S. sale of more sophisticated defensive weaponry.

That evening, Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger received the Dwight David Eisenhower Distinguished Service Award and Citation from

to civilian life.

On Wednesday, Aug. 17, Past Commander-in-Chief Richard L. Roudabush presented a \$2,500 check to the VFW for the VFW's commitment to the Bob Hope USO Fund.

Retiring as Buddy Poppy and Safety Director, Don Bishop was awarded Distinguished Service Medal by Currieo and Pete Fountain, the noted jazz

The Hard Way

Fatherless at 13, Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., learned early the value of work and military service. His leadership will move the organization on to greater heights.

by Howard Silber

Clifford G. Olson Jr., was just 13 when he was left fatherless and his mother had five children to care for, with little means of support.

The future Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States became a man before his time. His proving ground was difficult and potentially hazardous—the streets of Boston.

"I was the only boy," he recalled. "I was the one who could try to make a living. I had to do everything I could to help Mom."

If there was a way for a teen-ager to earn a dollar, Cliff Olson discovered it. He ran errands. He worked in fruit markets and grocery stores. By the time he was 15 he was employed by a furniture store, lifting and delivering sofas, tables, dressers, mattresses and refrigerators.

He learned to survive and, inescapably perhaps, he became a street fighter.

"You can take that in the most literal sense," he said. "I became aggressive because I had to. It's tough out there."

Through it all, Cliff Olson stuck it out in school. "I had an uncle who simply wouldn't let me quit," Olson said. "He insisted that I finish high school, and I did."

Olson graduated at 17 from Hyde Park High. He enlisted in the Navy almost immediately. That was in 1951. The Korean War was being fought. And it wasn't long before the young man from Massachusetts found himself in the Far East as a member of the

crew of a P2V Navy patrol plane. His unit, Patrol Squadron 7, provided air cover for the U.S. 7th Fleet and worked extensively carrying out anti-submarine patrols, weather reconnaissance and intelligence patrols over Korea.

When the war ended, Olson and his squadron settled into the hum-drum of the peacetime Navy. There were the dull but necessary activities. "All we seemed to do was to engage in training flights," he said. "We spent hour after hour in the air—over Newfoundland, Iceland, you name it. We were just being prepared in case anything happened."

In 1959, after eight years in uniform, he decided against a full Navy career. He and his wife, Lee, had two sons by then. Promotions in his career field were frozen as the result of a defense budget pinch. He faced a dead end.

Returning to Boston, Olson found a job as a laborer in the warehouse of a company that sold pipe and pipe fittings. He moved on to the General Foods Corp. starting out as a helper in a factory in which Baker's chocolate products were made. The third Olson son had arrived by then, and Cliff sought a little more for his family than the weekly pay envelope of a laborer. His inborn skills, Navy training and the ambition he acquired in the tough training ground of his youth led him to the better job of engineering technician.

That might have been enough of a climb for many men. He had a good job. He had self-respect, and the respect of others. But it wasn't sufficient for Cliff Olson. He wanted his own business. He had to make it on his own—

or fail on his own.

So, in 1966, he opened a heavy metal fabrication business, making hydraulic tanks, conveyor belts and a variety of other products. As Olson knew it would, the company did well.

But fate was going to deal Cliff Olson one more blow. In 1970, a bowel disorder was diagnosed as cancer. There was surgery, which included a colostomy. And there was an uncertain future. No future at all, perhaps.

Olson isn't reluctant to discuss that traumatic episode:

"I felt that, when you get cancer, it's the end. I never really had the feeling that some people get better from that disease. It wasn't that I was really a fatalist. I hadn't given up hope. But I had dropped down from 240 pounds to 150 pounds. I was a little nervous. I didn't know what to expect. I was thinking the worst."

Olson sold his business and put the money in trust for the education of sons Jim, Jack and Joe and daughter Jean Marie.

"They were going to have a future, even if I didn't," he said.

But Cliff Olson did have a future. The cancer that surgeons in Boston's Veterans Administration Hospital removed had not spread. The bowel was restored. The colostomy was closed. He began to gain weight again.

"I don't know when the time really came when I felt in my heart that I was going to get well," he said. "Somewhere along the line there was a moment in which darkness turned to light and I knew that everything was fine, that I was going to make it."

Olson had been an active VFW

member. He joined Lowell Mills Memorial Post 8699 in the Boston suburb of Mattapan as an athlete. The Post was fielding football and baseball teams in fast semi-professional leagues in Greater Boston. Olson was a tough interior lineman and a better-than-average second baseman. The VFW wanted him, and he wanted the VFW.

"It wasn't the best of reasons on either side," he said, "but that's the way it was."

Olson soon became involved in the work of the Post and in its administration. His leadership gained him the honor of being named All-State Post Commander in 1964 and 1965.

Shortly before the diagnosis of cancer, he ran successfully for Junior Vice Commander of District 1 in Massachusetts.

"My interest at the time was in my neighborhood and in the Post," he said. "I wasn't looking past my Post. I wanted to remain active at the Post level, and that was it. But some things were happening at the District level that I wasn't happy with. I didn't think the District was being directed properly. So I really became a District officer reluctantly."

During his 6½ months in the VA Hospital, Olson had a significant change of heart about his role in the VFW.

"You see things a bit differently from a hospital bed," he said. "I saw what the VFW was doing to patients—for me and the other fellows. I began to realize what the word comrade really meant. My VFW comrades visited me and brought fruit and other gifts. They brought money, which I didn't need. They helped my family in various ways. They worked with other patients. I wasn't special, but they made me feel I was special. They did that with everybody."

"When I got out of the hospital, I felt I owed something to the VFW. The only way I could repay my debt was through service to the organization and to my fellow veterans. I had to do things."

Material gain had become much less important to Olson. He decided not to return to business. Instead, he worked as a carpenter now and then and devoted most of his time to the VFW—as All-American District Commander in 1971 and 1972, as leader of VFW cancer fund drives, as the VFW chairman of the St. Jude Hospital campaign.

It was five years before he took

another full-time job, and that first one that followed his recuperation didn't last very long.

"I went to work for an elevator construction company. It was good, satisfying work. But it called for very long hours. I was deeply involved in my VFW work, and the job didn't permit me to spend as much time in VFW activities as I felt I should be spending," Olson said.

He gave up the job to join the staff of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, where there would be less overtime work and more freedom for the VFW. Today, Olson is responsible for rail and track maintenance throughout the Greater Boston area for MBTA.

Olson was the All-American Department Commander for Massachusetts in 1978 and 1979.

In 1981, at the 82nd National VFW Convention, he was elected Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief. He became Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief in 1982. In the spring of 1981, he had been elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief by the National Council of Administration, with the support of his Post, District, Department and The Eastern Conference, to fill the vacancy created in October, 1980, by the death of Commander-in-Chief T.C. Selman.

Last August, Cliff Olson was elected Commander-in-Chief of the VFW. As he stood before the delegates who represented the nearly 2 million fellow foreign service veterans, comrades in the organization, he pledged that in

his year as Chief the VFW would ascend to greater heights.

To Greater Heights!

The slogan for 1983-84 evolved from his battle cry as Massachusetts Department Commander—Climb with Cliff!

"We will climb. We will move to greater heights through the basic service we offer to veterans and their families," he said. "Through that service, we will have a more active, better, bigger VFW."

It has been a long, arduous climb for the lad who was left at 13 to fend for himself on the streets of Boston. He has achieved success for himself and for his family.

Jim, 28, is a graduate of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, an engineer and an employee of a prestigious engineering firm in Boston. Jack, 26, a Navy veteran, is a student at the University of Massachusetts. Joe, 22, was graduated from Boston Latin School, long recognized as one of the finest high schools in the United States, and also attends the University of Massachusetts. Daughter Jean Marie, 18, is a student at Msgr. Ryan Memorial High School in Dorchester, Mass.

And the Chief's wife, Lee Olson, is a member of his Post's Auxiliary.

Cliff Olson rejects the idea that life has been a bit severe for him.

"I've never looked at it that way," he said. "Everything that happened was just another challenge—a challenge to be overcome by climbing to greater heights."



After his election, Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., poses with his family. His wife, Lee, is to his left.

VFW Top Achievers Win Major Honors for Programs, Membership Growth, 1982-83

National Youth Activities Awards



Ray Smith accepting, Post 2455 and Auxiliary, Montesano, Wash.



James and Betty Kurz, District 1 and Auxiliary, Department of Wisconsin.



Ray Smith, Department of Washington and Auxiliary.

National Americanism Awards



Frank and Olive Marolt, Post 6587 and Auxiliary, Spring Lake, Minn., with Auxiliary President Florence Taylor and Commander-in-Chief Currieo.



Shirley Curda, District 3 and Auxiliary, Department of Texas.

National Community Activities Awards



Royd West and Hazel Libby, Post 5737 and Auxiliary, Abington, Mass.



Ardis and Charles Huckabee, Post 5994 and Auxiliary, Choteau, Okla.



Jackie Oswald and Gerald Olson, Post 6587 and Auxiliary, Spring Lake Park, Minn.

National Loyalty Day Awards



Madge Cook and Charlie Stephenson, Post 5290 and Auxiliary, Conyers, Ga.



Lavern Hammer and Francis Quinn, District 2 and Auxiliary, Department of Minnesota.

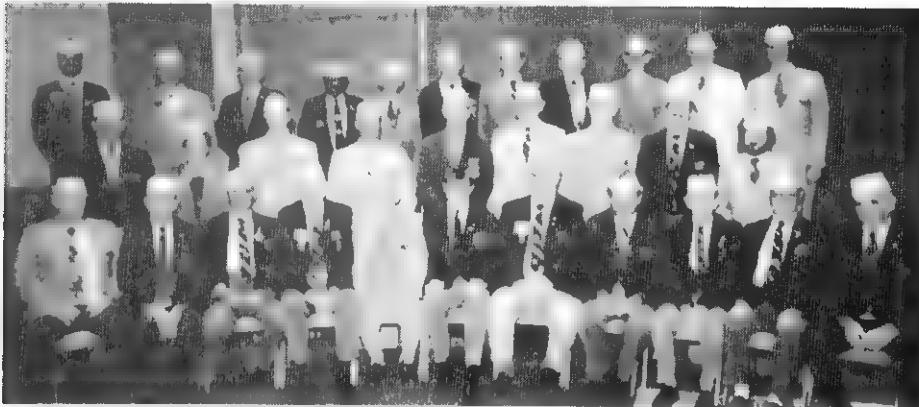


Irene Cheberenchick and Earl Nudi, Allegheny County Council and Auxiliary, Department of Pennsylvania.



Louis Reale and Jennie Corson, Department of Connecticut and Auxiliary.

All American District Commanders



First Row: George Fulkerson, 5, Ala.; Perry Hickman, 14, Ark.; Ralph Lopez, 1, Cecil Vaughn, 2, and William N. Cole, 17, Calif.; Commander-in-Chief Currieo, Charles E. Urda, 28, Calif.; Louis R. Cass, 4, James Crowe, 10, George S. Coody, 17 and Clyde E. Bobbitt, 19, Fla.

Second Row: Robert Humphrey, 21, Fla.; Mrs. Bobbie Graziano, 10, Ga.; Joseph H. Glock, 1, Germany; William Parish, 8, Ill.; Kenneth Parker, 10, Ky.; Floyd M. Gill, 5, La.; Max Hetherington, 10, Mich.; Gary Kurpius, 8, Minn. and Ronald R. Wooderson, 6, Mo.

Third Row: Ralph P. Elliott, 17, Mo.; Arthur L. Martin, 3, N.M.; Rolla M. Ethridge, 5, N.C.; George D. Lewis, 3, and George H. Gornall, 11, Ohio; John Brearly, 8, R.I.; Charles F. Ball, Jr., 3; Gordon A. Davis, 14, Hugh J. Black, 19 and Stew Drake, 21, Texas; Stanley W. Schnell, 2, Virginia.

All American Post Commanders



Below right:

First Row: Julie S. Craven, 49, and Cary J. Keel, 1701, Ala.; James G. Chalder, 10252, and Judd Clemens, 9785, Alaska; Norman N. Cooper, 1433, Ariz.; Commander-in-Chief Currieo, Tommie L. Horney, 5179; Kenneth L. Stevens, 9223; Richard R. Pignome, 3173; John L. Wilson, 4630, and Leon Forbes, 3866, Calif., and Donald Tschida, 8483, Wis.

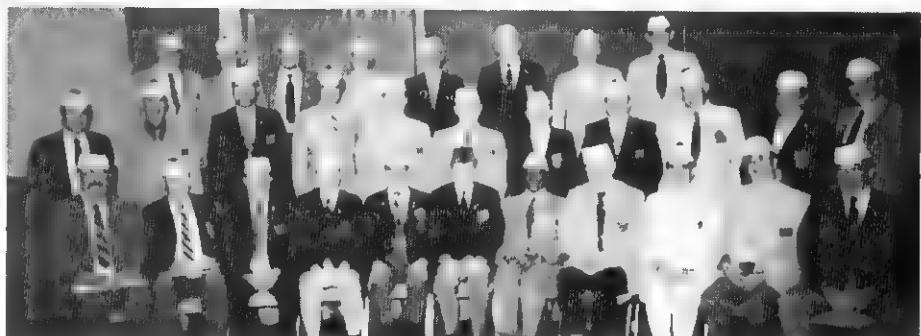
Second Row: Jack Blasko, 10304, and Harold Fletcher, 1590, Fla.; Louis Graziano, 6672; Walter Gunnell, 658; Charlie Stephenson, 5290, and Harold Thomason, 665, Ga.; Gregory A. Choyce, 6863, and Paul N. Peck, 2257, Ill.; Ralph R. Johnson, 1973, Iowa; James E. Conley, 10017, and Dr. Carl L. Culver, 3167, Ky.; George P. Magrath, 6712, Mass.; Gene C. Lindberg, 1694, Wash. **Third Row:** Virgil Mullins, 2152, Mass.; Leo Leininger, 5555, Minn.; Francis Hales, 4428, Mo.; Michael Milano, 8867, N.J.; Tyrone M. Benson, 7686, N.M.; Rolla Ethridge, 2578, and Harlan C. LaBar, 2057, N.C.; Herman Ricker, 3963, Ohio; Stan Grubaugh, 4578, Okla.; Wray E. Grantz, 927, Pa.; James A. Chancellor, 4695; Dan Higgins, 3892, W.A. Honsinger, 2397; Arthur W. Pope, 837; Jim Smith, 9174; Shafter Tomlin, 9191; Jack A. Wallace, 1837, and George R. Zettles, Jr., 9192, Texas. Not pictured are Willard Zook, 1080, Ohio; J.D. Compton, 4933, Tenn.; Dwight C. Garren, 3431, Ark.

All American County Council Commanders



Ray Schuenemann, Lake Geauga, Ohio, and Harry Parsons, Genesee, Mich., with Commander-in-Chief Currieo.

All American Department Commanders



First Row: Joe DeCosta, Alaska; Francis H.J. MacDonnell, Ariz.; Wendal Gills, Ark.; Samuel E. Gladden, Calif.; Americo J. Tancredi, Conn.; Commander-in-Chief James R. Currieo, William E. Jenkins, Del.; John C. Weiss, Fla.; Rance J. Taylor, Ga.; Robert Carey, Ind.; Howard H. Howells, Ky. **Second Row:** Paul Renard, La.; Thomas E. Ryan, Md.; Paul A. Spera, Mass.; James Goldsmith, Mich.; Robert H. Mares, Minn.; William L. Dorsey, Mo.; Vernon L. Fleshman, Neb.; Vincent J. Tamburino, N.J.; Lloyd E. Vanderhoof, N.M.; Thomas E. Voss, N.Y.; Jimmie Outlaw, N.C. **Third Row:** Alfred E. Kovacinc, Ohio; F.D. Williamson, Jr., S.C.; John F. Simmons, Texas; John J. Zuba, Vt.; Bobby R. Walls, Va.; Fred Kauffman, Wash.; Danny Wooster, W. Va.; Leroy Marlewski, Wis.





Oxcarts are still seen in the rural belt of Korea. This one lumbers past the ruins of a bank the Japanese built in Chorwon during their 40-year occupation of Korea. (Dennis Steele)

CHORWON

By Hal Drake

The truce ending the fighting in Korea was concluded in July 30 years ago, after three years of fighting that cost 157,530 American casualties, 33,629 battle deaths. The writer returned to South Korea recently for the first time since he fought there.

First, outside the infamous tunnel that was a long wound into South Korea, there was the jackhammer pounding of an automatic weapon.

"Training," a young South Korean officer said, more hopeful than assured. But now a fierce, rapid popping snapped back at the first noise. "Return fire," said an American.

So it was on a recent morning near

Chorwon, alongside the Demilitarized Zone and just outside Tunnel No. 2, the attempted underground invasion route that was discovered before the disaster of 1950 could repeat itself.

Another snappish exchange of gunfire in the DMZ, one more South Korean dead, the North Koreans cooling their guns and already preparing a protest to read at Panmunjom. An older American stranger found gunfire to be a discouraging sound. Why, in all of 30 years, had so much and yet too little changed in this violent world? The signatures of negotiators were supposed to have resolved it all so long ago.

Why this long tunnel and that sudden gunfire? Why was that kid out there, unborn when the 1953 truce was signed, now dead?

What was the stranger doing here, near Chorwon, which he had left in

1952 in that wonderful ritual called rotation? He had all but done a Highland fling when he left Chorwon that time, pledging to put it out of sight and mind forever.

But he had to go north from Seoul to see it, just once more, to see if history could erase its mistakes and things could change.

Chorwon was one corner of the Iron Triangle that peaked at Pyong-yang and spread down, like an open fan or a two-talonied claw, to Chorwon and Kumwha. The triangle was the centerpiece of the North Korean invasion, the stockpile of supplies and reinforcements that nourished the offensive. A railroad ran between the two lower towns. A broad valley spread before Chorwon like a dry moat, a purgatory of bullet and shellfire for any who tried to cross.

From Chorwon two roads twisted

south, one past a then sleepy town called Tongduchon, today the large and lively community that borders U.S. 2nd Infantry Division headquarters at Camp Casey. Both routes linked up at Uijongbu and continued, as one road, into Seoul. Chorwon was the head of the hammer, the handle of the lance, a clean thrust at an enemy capital.

This trip north was beautifully easy, the older stranger mused—a leisurely ride in a comfortable van, not a rain-on open truck. Stopovers were brief and restful, not the sleepwalk between gunpit and howitzer, throwing rounds in the clank-open breech, firing all night between gulps of camphor-tasting instant coffee.

No, the stranger told himself. That road sign was a lie and the town beyond a mirage. Pochon? It couldn't be. Pochon had been meanly slain, beaten flat by Corps artillery.

That main street, full of shop windows and quality goods, everything from Kodaks to motorcycles, in Pochon?

Pochon was an inspiring surprise—the first, and one of many.

The stranger passed the world's most meaningless boundary, the 38th Parallel, once the latitudinal border between the two Koreas. No, said 19-year-old Park Myung Hwa, the pert and personable salesclerk at the 38th Parallel Resting Place, she knew nothing of the war that flawed the map and blighted the lives of her elders.

Here, as the hills began to rise and roll, was Unchon, an old town, modest and low-roofed, full of hard-muscled workmen and cheerful, perennially pregnant farm wives.

Beyond that, small towns were becoming large ones, growing like an urban fungus over farmland. The village of Dongsongduk brushed past, a casual swap of modern scenery. The stranger did not recall it. Was it one of those where an ash heap stood like a headstone?

Seventy-Six Alley, where was it, that tainted route that ran through the long valley and always drew spiteful fire from the Communist mountain guns?

The frontline loomed closer now, because here was Golden Crane Mountain, the most prominent and unmistakable landmark in Chorwon. The tallest mountain, it scaled 947 meters and was contested and bled over, denuded but dignified as the South Koreans held it through the last hours of the shooting. Not so the

broken cone of Ice Cream Hill, which was disfigured and impaired by the war disease—actually suffered a collapsed pinnacle from raging artillery and down-spiraling bombs.

This was once all North Korean turf—city, town, village, valley and mountain belonged to them. They kept and still occupy Kim Il Sung, a short glance away, beyond the fence and the overgrowth called the DMZ. The tiresome propaganda drone flows from loudspeakers and floods the valley, even past White Horse Mountain, another broken chess piece on the valley board. A gutsy South Korean outfit, holding that height, forever signified itself as the White Horse Division.

There were uniforms today, in Chorwon City, and the disbelieving stranger wanted to weep—small boys and little girls in blue and white school uniforms, a few of the girls moving along in the highwaisted rainbow costumes that made them look like walking spectrums of color. Chorwon had been sentenced to extinction, too, a corpse covered by a sheet of ashes. Now, in Chorwon, there was a French bakery with a wedding cake and rich pastries in the window, close to a record shop crowded with teenagers and a cabaret that would draw the disco crowd after sundown. Keeping its rural roots, Chorwon had two visible feed stores. All was tall and beautified in broken, reborn Chorwon.

But on the outskirts, the old war image came back. ROK infantrymen were still making every spare foot of the countryside a fortress.

The 76s had probed over the mountains on an Easter Sunday and the stranger never forgot that berserk shriek that could tear the insulation from a man's nerves. There was that distant boom, the shrill wheeze of air that gave way like flimsy fabric, then the sharp, splitting explosion—almost a single sound. They came in, like fast-balls flung by an Iron Mike, for 45 minutes. A few nights later, that kid from Able Battery hit the tripwire of an old flare and was spattered with white phosphorus that burned through bone. The stranger hadn't known a man could scream like that...



The author on the steps of the broken Young Communist League headquarters. (Dennis Steele)



Greenery is restored to the devastated countryside. Steel ribs of a rusted locomotive, blown from the tracks in the early days of the Korean War, still scar the scene. (Dennis Steele)

There were new landmarks now, just next to the rail line, but they looked very old. Tall, precariously balanced boulders, often crowned by smaller rocks, stood at the roadside and looked like the markers of Stonehenge. At a slight push, they would topple over to become a roadblock. Spruce trees were like tall brooms, a surprise to the stranger who recalled only the Normandy poplars planted by the Japanese and the splintered stumps left by an invader.

Now, just below the jagged fault on the map, there was a no-frills headquarters with a cutaway cyclorama of a long tunnel—the second subterranean invasion route burrowed beneath the DMZ. A soft-spoken briefer tells of how, before it was discovered, the tunnel spanned 3.5 kilometers north to south, and was wide enough for a trickle or a torrent of invaders who would have moved through three abreast.

Thousands could have passed in swift discomfort, materializing like specters in a horror film on the other side. Wave after wave could have easily followed the rugged contours of the mineshaft-molehole tunnel, walking or sprinting. It was almost finished when sentries on the southern side felt the ground tremble and heard muffled booms.

The South Koreans then brought up tools and probed through to the tunnel, taking 24 days to pound past 108 meters of rock. The deep, wide infiltration route was deserted by then, with



A South Korean Army truck rolls past the stone marking the world's most meaningless boundary. (Dennis Steele)

most of the large and heavy tools pulled out.

Come now and see it, the briefer said, first showing off some of his reconnaissance company's muscle. Four ranks of hard-faced young men formed on judo mats and went through a violent light fantastic of barehanded attack and defense, fists flying and bodies swiveling as bayonets flashed like small Bowie knives and pistols and rifles were wrenched away. One man took on three armed attackers and spun through them like a small tornado.

No invaders, the briefer boasted, would have found his people an easy mark.

On the way to an underground landmark, the stranger at last saw something to remember. The scimitar-shaped reservoir that had been an outdoor bathhouse and truck wash for GIs again teemed with fish and trickled down to the rice paddies below the zone.

"North Korea built this tunnel without consideration of your height," the briefer said. The tunnel was damp and deep, like an oceanside grotto. The sky shone through a hole drilled for evidence that there was a tunnel. A long walk continued, with white-circled dynamite holes every few feet. The blasts would have widened the tunnel so that more infiltrators could have wedged past. Damp and dismal, this shaft where Montresor might have walled up Fortunato.

"Over here, the North Koreans laid mines and booby traps..."



Old Chorwon, a deliberately preserved ruin, is seen through the shattered wall of the old Japanese bank. (Dennis Steele)

The tunnel got damper, darker as it sloped northward and down.

"We guess 10,000 people could pass through this tunnel in one hour..."

Now there was a small warehouse niche in the tunnel wall, where dynamite was stored and drills and machinery were kept. A water source, a carefully plumbed well, was nearby. Here, the bits and burrows of jackhammers were cooled and there was a concrete platform that could hold machinery like an air compressor that was found intact and taken out.

The end of the tunnel was tightly sealed with rocks. Beyond was North Korea. That was it, the invasion that never was—at least through this subterranean route.

Old Chorwon, long abandoned, was a strange object of civic pride, like the Arizona monument or the ruined cathedral West Berliners called "the rotten tooth." That disembowelled Japanese bank, the former Young Communist League headquarters that looked like a broken chunk of Corregidor, the church with steps that lead to nowhere—all will be left intact, or rather destroyed.

"We keep it this way to show people how it was," the briefer said softly.

But to the stranger, there was a more telling marker—the smoke that still rose from the scruffy zone, marking the spoor of streaking tracers and a mine blast.

Why, he asked himself again, had so much but too little changed?

RECENT BOOKS

Hardback

A Bitter Fog: Herbicides and Human Rights, by Carol Van Strum, Sierra Club Books, 288 pages, \$14.95. Though a considerable body of literature is available on Agent Orange and its harmful effects on servicemen in warfare, *A Bitter Fog* is the first major treatment on the harmful consequences of herbicides within the U.S. since Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*.

Bowfin: The Story of One of America's Fabled Fleet Submarines in World War II, by Edwin P Hoyt, Van Nostrand Reinhold, 234 pages, \$20.50. Drawing on official records, reports, and interviews with ex-crew members, Hoyt depicts the drama of life aboard the *Bowfin*.

Warship: Volume VI, edited by John Roberts, U.S. Naval Institute, 312 pages, \$23.95. A quarterly series devoted to the design, development and service of the world's combat ships.

United States Navy Destroyers of World War II, by John C Reilly, Jr; Blandford Press, 160 pages, \$16.95. Packed with 200 photos, this book shows destroyers under construction, during modernization, on trials and in active service in the Pacific, Atlantic and Mediterranean.

World Index of Strategic Minerals: Production, Exploitation and Risk, by D Hargreaves and S Fromson, Facts on File, Inc., 300 pages, \$95. This handbook profiles 37 key minerals, from the most common to the more esoteric, more and more of which are being used increasingly in high level defense and electronic applications.

The Russian Version of the Second World War edited by Graham Lyons, Facts on File, 142 pages, \$14.95. Compiled from standard Russian school texts, the Soviet version of what happened and why is often in sharp conflict with the views of Western historians.

Victory over the Wind: A History of the Absolute World Speed Record by Don Berliner, Van Nostrand Reinhold Co., 176 pages, \$15.95. Berliner chronicles the 68 successful attempts at the world record, from Albert Dumont's 26 m.p.h. in 1906 to the current record of 2194 m.p.h. set by an American pilot in a secret spy plane.

The Pawns of War by William M Kreye, Van-
tage Press, 284 pages, \$10.95. An intelligence
non-com in World War II, Kreye retells the
story of the men, places and battles, especially
the exploits of the 9th Infantry Division.

Bird, by S.L.A. Marshall, The Battery Press, 206 pages, \$16.95. Bird is an actual account of a hard-fought battle between two U.S. Army artillery batteries and a 1st Cav rifle company against three battalions of North Vietnamese regulars on Christmas Day, 1966.

**The Lion and the White Falcon: Britain
and Iceland in the World War II Era** by
Donald F Bittner, The Shoe String Press, Inc.,
192 pages, \$25. A decidedly British perspective
of the 1940-46 Allied occupation of Iceland,
considered by Karl Haushofer to be "a pistol
pointed at England, America, and Canada."

Softcover

Carbine and Lance: The Story of Old Fort
Sill, by Wilbur S Nye, University of Oklahoma
Press, 384 pages, \$14.95. Includes 64 pages of
illustrations printed from new plates and three
new maps.

**Recollections of a Regimental Medical
Officer,** by H.D. Steward, Melbourne University
Press, 169 pages, \$16.95. A documentation of
the varied and demanding front-line activities
required of an army doctor during WW II.

The U.S. Armed Forces First Aid Manual,
edited by James W Fitzgerald, Jr, and John
Boswell; Rawson, Wade Publishers, Inc.; 182
pages, \$7.95. Specifically designed for use by the
general public, this manual is organized and
cross-referenced to be of maximum benefit to
the user.

The U.S. War Machine: An Illustrated Encyclopedia of American Military Equipment and Strategy, by James E Dornan, Jr; Crown Publishers, Inc.; 272 pages, \$10.95.

Nuclear Illusion & Reality by Solly Zuckerman, Vintage Books, 154 pages, \$2.95. In this short book containing some useful information of the subject of nuclear warfare, Zuckerman argues against the idea of limited nuclear war and that building a nuclear arsenal is the best way to insure national security.

Insurance Refund May Be Due

If you have paid both Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) and Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI) premiums at the same time, you may be due a refund of life insurance premiums, the VA says.

Since Sept. 29, 1965, most active duty service personnel have been protected under SGLI. This coverage is automatic unless declined by the individual. Since 1974, this automatic SGLI coverage also has applied to members of the Ready Reserve. On Aug. 1, 1974, the VGLI program was established. VGLI is five-year, non-renewable term protection for recently separated veterans.

Because of the automatic coverage provision of SGLI, and the fact that veterans often re-enlist or join reserve units after obtaining VGLI, some individuals have paid premiums for both programs at the same time. Under the law (title 38, United States Code, section 777), however, no person may have a combination of SGLI and VGLI coverage of more than \$35,000 at one time. (Prior to Dec. 1, 1981, this limit was \$20,000). Thus, in the event of death, only \$35,000 in proceeds is payable.

If you believe you have paid, or are currently paying, both SGLI and VGLI premiums for combined coverage of more than that allowed by law, you should contact the Office of Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (OSGLI) as soon as possible. To help that office determine whether a refund of premiums is due, you should provide proof of active duty service period, or proof of reserve duty service period. OSGLI's address is P.O. Box 1049, Newark, N.J. 07101.

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U.S. Forces Tops

Declaring that "people are the heart of our defenses," Gen. John W. Vessey, Jr., Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, had high praise for the level of men and women making up today's Armed Forces.

Gen. Vessey addressed delegates to the 84th VFW National Convention in New Orleans on Aug. 16 after being introduced by Commander-in-Chief James R. Currie who recalled the general's days as an enlisted man.

"No matter how advanced our technology or how devastating our weaponry, the skill of the men and women in uniform is the key to the success of our arms," he asserted.

After touring American installations in all parts of the world for most of last year, Gen. Vessey said he has concluded that "the forces are in good shape and the people manning those forces are among the finest we have ever had."

The all-volunteer force "is working," he continued, but questions remain such as whether the services will continue to recruit the same quality people as the economy improves.

"In time of war, we know we will need compulsory military service," he said. "What I say to you is that the nation will have to watch all that very carefully and make certain that it does get good people in the right numbers."

To retain the high caliber people in the service now, he said, will mean that "pay and other emoluments must be adequate...the rewards for military service have to reflect the unique aspect of military life."

"We want to see that the people we've got in uniform get the proper treatment and that they get the equipment and training they need," he added.

Gen. Vessey expressed pleasure that the Reserves are getting a "sensible share of the modern equipment" because "they figure more importantly in our strategy than ever before."

The job of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, he said, "is to make sure that we keep our forces as ready as the defense budgets will permit, that we tell the Secretary of Defense and the President what is needed to carry out the nation's defense strategy and that we see to the welfare of those soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines so that they are in good physical shape and have the right mental condition to do the job they have to do."

VFW



Gen. Vessey had high praise for the men and women in the Armed Forces when he addressed Convention delegates.



Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. John W. Vessey, Jr., is introduced to the delegates by Commander-in-Chief James R. Currie. With them are Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron and Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr.

Convention Highlights



Past Commander-in-Chief Richard L. Roudabush, right, as chairman of Veterans Life Insurance Co., Valley Forge, Pa., presents Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., with a \$2,500 check for the VFW special fund for the Bob Hope USO Center. Quartermaster Gen. J.A. Cheatham is center.



Flanked by Commander-in-Chief James R. Currieo and Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, Jr., the Sergeants-at-Arms were honored at the National Convention. Heading them is Leopold Matyszka, second from right.



Carroll Addison, of Post 5283, Hartington, Neb., and John Meyer, of Post 5435, Martinburg, Neb., pose with their motorboat that took them 2,000 miles down the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers to the National Convention in New Orleans.



Commander-in-Chief James R. Currieo receives the Legion of Merit membership in the Chapel of the Four Chaplains from Past National Chaplain Henry L. Reinwald.



Surrounded by fellow Mississippians, Rep. G.V. (Sonny) Montgomery, who chairs the House Veterans Affairs Committee, pauses for picture-taking at the National Convention.



Buddy Poppy Girl Nicole Striegel thanks delegates for assistance they have given the VFW National Home. Dr. Ted Wilson, Home executive director, is at left.

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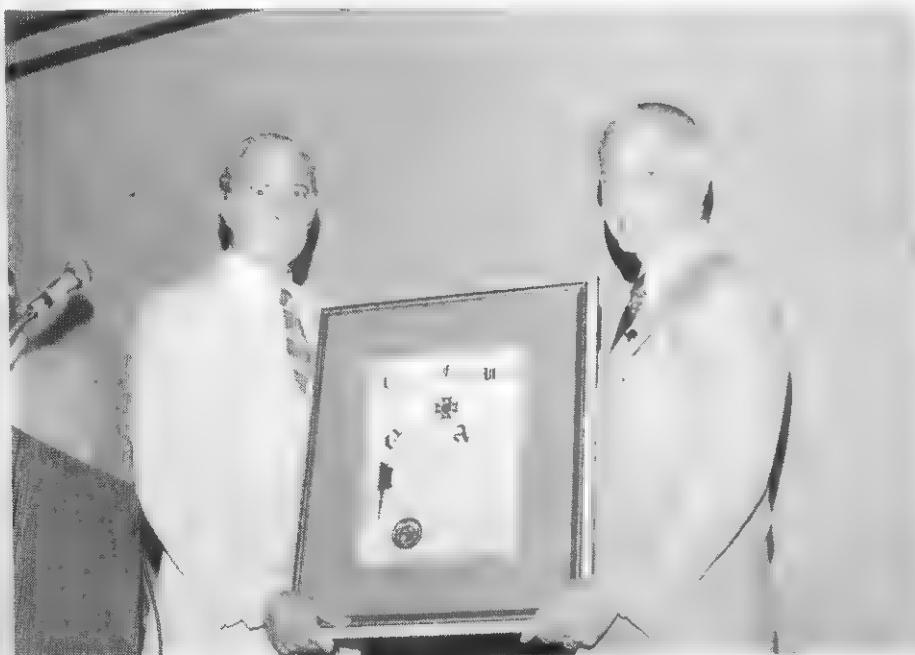
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Mack G. Fleming, chief counsel and staff director of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, receives the VFW Certificate of Appreciation from Washington Office Executive Director Cooper T. Holt during the Department Service Officers Conference.

Department Commanders 1983-84



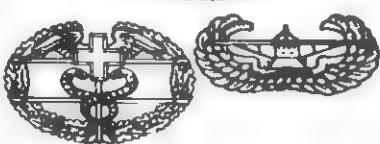
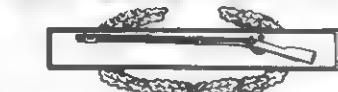
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- 9. Army Commendation
- 10. Army Good Conduct
- 11. Asiatic-Pacific-Campaign
- 12. Bronze Star
- 13. China Service
- 14. Coast Guard Good Conduct
- 15. Distinguished Flying Cross
- 16. European-African-M.E. Campaign
- 17. Korean Service
- 18. Marine Good Conduct
- 19. Navy Commendation
- 20. Navy Good Conduct
- 21. Navy & Marine Corp Medal
- 22. Navy Unit Commendation
- 23. Navy Presidential Unit Clt.
- 24. National Defense Service
- 25. Philippine Liberation
- 26. Philippines President Unit Clt.
- 27. Presidential Unit Citation
- 28. Purple Heart
- 29. Rep. Korea Presidential Unit Clt.
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prevent
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I can't

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(continued from page 20)

- 698. Veterans Organ Donor Program
- 699. Remove Restrictions of Non Service Connected Veterans
- 701. Preservation of National Soldier Home, West Los Angeles
- 703. Veterans Administration Medical Center, San Francisco Parking
- 704. Support National Memorial Honoring Korean Veterans
- 706. Provide a New Veterans Hospital in Northern Virginia
- 707. Recommend Medal of Honor for Tech. Sgt. C M Saatzer
- 709. Disabled Veterans Outreach Personnel, DOL
- 710. Preference Indicators
- 713. Investigate Appraisal Fee and Points for GI Loans
- 715. Support for Funding the Minneapolis VAMC in 1984 FY Budget
- 717. Notification by the Veterans Administration of Eligibility for Policy Waiver of Premiums
- 718. Exceptions to Six Foot Graves in Minnesota
- 719. Upright Grave Markers at Fort Snelling National Cemetery
- 721. VA Hospital Based Home Care Program
- 723. Reopen Professional Hospital, Yonkers, New York
- 725. Special Advisory Committees on Female Veterans
- 727. Uniformed Services Retirement System
- 728. Catch-62
- 731. Atomic Radiation Exposure
- 732. Provide Comparable Unemployment Compensation to Ex-Military Personnel
- 734. Support Adequate Funding for Veterans' Employment and Training Service
- 738. Separate Fundings for DVOPs
- 741. Restore Funding for State Employment Service
- 742. Monitoring Federal Contractors
- 749. Supplemental Medical Plan
- 750. C.O.L.A.
- 751. Oppose Elimination of V.A.
- 752. Urging Restoration of Burial Benefits to all Veterans
- 761. Use of Military Postal Service by the VFW
- 766. Postal Privileges for Box R Patrons
- 767. Retention of Medical Service
- 768. Oppose the Cost-of-Living Increase Limitation Act
- 769. Feres Doctrine and Armed Forces Personnel
- 770. Veterans Administration Home Loans
- 771. Buyer Brokering
- 772. To Provide for an Open National Cemetery in Every State
- 773. Funding for a New Visitors Center for Arlington National Cemetery
- 774. Vietnam Veterans Readjustment Counseling Vet Centers
- 775. Board of Veterans Appeals Expansion
- 776. Matching-Fund Construction Grants to States
- 777. Improved Health Care and Facilities for Veterans of Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands

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NOTICES

The **Notices** and **Reunions** columns of VFW Magazine are a service provided cost-free to Comrades who need **Claims Assistance**, who wish to announce upcoming unit/ship **Reunions**, and to assist in **Seeking Former Comrades/Shipmates**. Reunion forms are available from VFW Magazine. All **Reunion** announcements must arrive at VFW Magazine offices no later than three months before the event. The announcement will be published as space becomes available in the publication. Priority goes to VFW members seeking **Claims Assistance**, followed by **Reunion** announcements and **Seeking Former Comrades/Shipmates**. **Notices** and **Reunions** are limited to one-time insertion.

AIR FORCE

(Including Army air units prior to 1947)

463rd Air Police Sqdn. (Ardmore AFB, Okla., Dec. 1953-Dec. 1954) and 154th AC&W, HQ & HQ (Morocco, June 1952-Nov. 1953)—Seeking anyone who knew of my breathing problem, esp Bari Blackburn, Jack Wallace and Mr Coffee (Tenn.). Fisher and Roy Davenport (Texas), Holloway (Ga.), Joseph H. Kingsbury, T. Sgts. Moore and James Waters.—Elbert G. Welch, Box 148, Cedar Hill, Mo. 63016.

Itazuki AFB (Japan) (June 1958)—Seeking six airmen who were hospitalized with broken eardrums and persons treating us.—Wayne M. Hughes, PO Box 2075, Big River, Calif. 92242

ALL BRANCHES

127th Abn. Engr. Bn. (Sendia, Japan, 1945-49); 77th Spec. Forces (Ft. Bragg, N.C., 1954-55); 7th Spec. Forces (Ft. Bragg, 1958) and USS Bushnell (Key West, Fla., 1955)—Seeking Capt. Hayden C. Coker, Preston, Malaby, Bales, Hayes or anyone recalling my nervous condition, scarlet fever and the parachute jump near Sendia when my rifle hit my face when landing, also Maj. B. Taylor, J. Dye, Arkell, Desoto, Lin Schotan and Al Green or anyone remembering my back injury in parachute jump, an ear infection, ruptured sinuses, nervous condition and stomach ulcers at Ft. Bragg, also Capt. Dornford T. Walker and Troy Joplin, and Sgt. Red Eye Taggart or anyone remembering back injury resulting from parachute jump at Ft. Stewart, Ga., when I landed through a tree and on to a small building, also Lt. Duke Teets and the attending Navy doctor who treated me for the bends at Underwater Swimmers School in Key West.—Carl Brewer, 9 Adam St., Apt. 11, South Easton, Mass. 02375

ARMY

357th Inf. Med. Det., 90th Div. (Louisiana, spring, 1943)—Seeking Major R.L. Hullinghorst, regimental surgeon, Capt. Doyle, 1st Lt. Beshara, medical staff, or anyone who remembers me as clerk and supply sgt. of the detachment.—Willis E. Carlson, Box 409, Carlton Minn. 55718

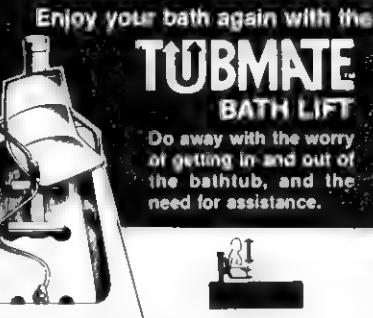
121st Rad. Sig. Int. Co. (Eupen, Belgium) — Seeking Alfred Jones (Iowa) in regards to injury to my right leg requiring

(continued on page 62)

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is born with
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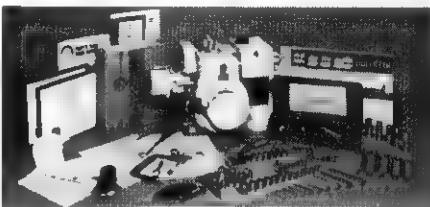
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To Greater Heights

(continued from page 45)

ment to excellence," he continued. "Their discipline, training and self-motivation enable them to succeed at whatever task is set for them and they can be counted upon to look on employment not as just a job but as a lifelong career."

Receiving the News Media Award for USA Today, Robert A. Dubill, the new national newspaper's managing editor for news, said he hopes the VFW will continue to be part of the nation's continuing dialogue on issues affecting its well-being.

Dr. William R. Lucas, of NASA's Marshall Space Center, who was presented with the Space Award, said the nation's space program enhances national prestige, deters would-be aggressors, provides vital knowledge of the universe and aids all mankind through the advancement of scientific information.

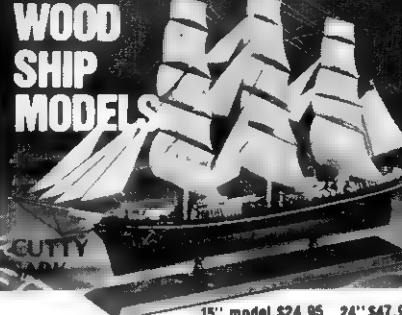
Dr. Theodore Wilson III, executive director of the VFW National Home, introduced the Buddy Poppy Girl, Nicole Striegel, and Bryan Epling accepted the Certificate of Commendation for the Home's Fire Department.

Elections and installation of officers concluded the Convention Friday, Aug. 19.

Elected were Commander-in-Chief Clifford G. Olson, of Pembroke, Mass.; Sr. Vice Commander-in-Chief Billy Ray Cameron, of Sanford, N.C.; Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John Staum, of Minneapolis, Minn.; Quartermaster Gen. J.A. Cheatham, of Shawnee Mission, Kans.; Judge Advocate Gen. Tom Russell, of Chicago; Surgeon Gen. John Boyd Coates, M.D., of Phoenixville, Pa.; and National Chaplain Kenneth D. Killin, of Toledo, Wash.

Appointed were Raymond D. Brennan, of Columbia, Md., Chief of Staff, and Charles Sullivan, of Malden, Mass., Inspector General.

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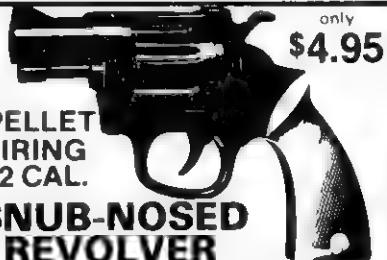
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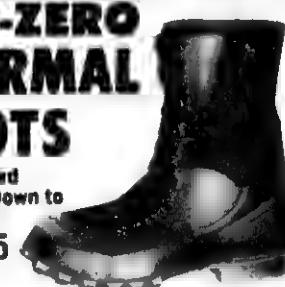
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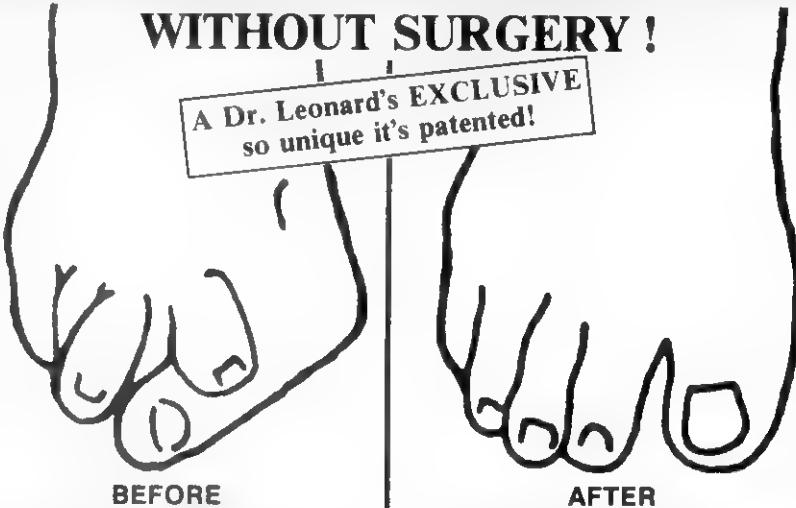
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(continued from page 62)

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USS Cleveland landing force (Nicaragua, 1926)—Seeking Frank Bowman, Jr., and Francis Plunkett.—Guy Sanderson, 2715 S. Lands End Rd., Tucson, Ariz. 85715

Seeking Former Comrades

AIR FORCE

(Including Army air units prior to 1947)

85th Ftr. Sqdn., 79th Ftr. Grp., 12th AF (March-Oct. 1944) and 507th Ftr. Grp., 464th Ftr. Sqdn. (Dec. 1944-Dec. 1945)—Randy Button, 1670 W Sunnyside Rd., Oshkosh, Wis. 54901

314th TC Grp., 32nd, 50th, 61st and 62nd Sqdns.—European tour planned for D-Day, 1944—David E. Mondt, Box 606, Boone, Iowa 50036

86th Bomb. Grp., 8th AF (WW II)—Former crew members and Everett N. Howe (N.Y.)—Harry R. Shirley, 1228 E. 2nd St., Smyrna, Del. 19977

483rd Bomb. Grp., 15th AF (Cracow, Poland, Oct. 14, 1944)—Crew members of B-17 who bailed out and were assisted by Polish Underground—George Shiller, 520 Kelton Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. 90024

384th Grp., 8th AF—For reunion.—Howard Turlington, Rt. 1, Gerald, Mo. 63037

15th Bomb. Sqdn. (L), 8th AF (England and North Africa, WW II)—Emmett B. Ballay, 702 Belle Chasse Hwy South, Belle Chasse La. 70037

375th TC Grp., 5th AF (WW II)—Cpl John C. Smith (Texas)—Walter D. Kudler, 6020 Huntington Cir., Harrisburg, Pa. 17111

Camp Ranh Bay and detachments (Vietnam, Sept. 1967-Sept. 1968)—For reunion.—Andrew T. Rowe, 125 Rose Ave., Pittsburgh Pa. 15235

399th Recon. Tech. Sqdn. (Wiesbaden, Germany, 1953)—Alton L. Scarborough, 517 E. Fulton St., Stockton, Calif. 95204.

4th Ferrying Grp., Air Transport Command and 20th Grp. (Berry Field, Nashville, Tenn., 1944-45)—Capt. Harry Woods.—Capt. J.D. Tyner Jr. 1, Gambill Cove, Mt. Juliet, Tenn. 37122

42nd Bomb. Sqdn., 11th Bomb. Grp. (WW II)—Gus Harris (Calif.), John R. Noebels (N.J.), William C. Wooding (Pa.), William P. Muhl (N.Y.), Irwin J. (Jake) Seymour (Miss.), John E. Spurling (Calif.) and James O. Wood (Ohio).—George F. Houston, 6025 Anthony Dr., Orangevale, Calif. 95662

451st Bomb. Grp. Survivors, 15th AF (WW II)—For reunion.—Bob Karstensen, 451st Bomb Group, Ltd., Marengo, Ill. 60152

ALL BRANCHES

VTB 305 (WW II)—For reunion.—Pat Musano, 46 Briar Hill Rd., Cedar Grove, N.J. 07009

University Center in Biarritz (France)—For reunion.—L. Barriety, President des Anciens de la BAU, CTF, Square d'Ixelles, 64200 Biarritz, France

Stuttgart Sub-Post (1961-65)—John J. Simmons, 4605 Spanish Oak Rd., Temple, Texas 76502

ARMY

71st Engr. Fld. Maint. Co. (1951-52)—Capt. George Rollins, Lt. J. Faulkner and T. Cromwell, 1st Sgt. Sawyer and other members.—Stanley Kwasniewski, River Rd. RFD 2, New Milford, Conn. 06776

681st TD Bn., HQ Co. (ETO, Oct.-Nov. 1945)—For reunion.—R.F. Parker, 1211 Reid St., Bucyrus, Ohio 44820

203rd FA Bn., Btry. A (WW II)—Seeking comrades in Presque Isle, Me. area.—Bill Cottingham, 1111 N. Oliver, Wichita, Kans. 67208

58th Ord. Ammo Co. (Korea, May 1952-52)—Harold B. Breahaut, 3347 A St., San Diego, Calif. 92102

5th Sta. Hosp. (WW II)—For reunion.—Adelaide Noble Werden, 3341 Richmond Mattoon, Ill. 61938

861st Ord. HAM Co. (WW II)—For reunion.—Travis Flowers, 733 W Mountain St., Kernerville, N.C. 27284

264th FA Bn., HQ Btry. (WW II)—For reunion.—Lawrence E. Gresham, 804 Anaconda Ave., Charleston, W. Va. 25302

177th Eng. Constr. Bn. (Shemaya, Aleutian Islands, WW II)—Bill Carter, Rt. 2 Box 111, Denver, N.C. 28037

Officers Open Mess (Camp Ranh Bay, Vietnam, Sept. 1969-Sept. 1970)—Spec 4's Elwood Hickman and Joe Burrow (Mo.) and Jim Miller (Ill.)—Spec 4 Emil Avallone, 8419 19th Ave., Apt. 5C, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11214

7th Inf. Div., 713th Flame Thrower Bn. and 754th Tank Bn.—Gerald R. (Chief) Goodwin, 39650 Lourree Dr., Sandy, Ore. 97055

4th Grp. Regulating Station (Camp Hathaway, 1943; England, 1943-45)—Walter Coffenberry, 1529 Chillicothe St., Obetz, Ohio 43207

54th FA Replacement Trng. Ctr., Btry. B (Camp Roberts, Calif., 1941)—Leonard W. Cox, R2 School St., Washington, Ill. 61571

849th Avn. Engr. Bn., Co. B (India and Burma, 1943-44)—Norman Jones, 4100 W Roosevelt Dr., Milwaukee, Wis. 53216

35th Div., 127th and 320th Inf.—William Reagan (Cleveland) and others.—RG Schoonover, Box 287 Almont, Mich. 48003

4th Inf. Div., 4th Engr. Co. A (Pleiku, Vietnam, 1969-70)—For reunion.—William R. Million, 13 A St. N. Meadow Village, Normal, Ill. 61761

780th FA Bn. (Korea, 1951-52)—Lowell Freitag, 2619 N. Bell, Wharton, Texas 77488

COAST GUARD

USS LST 205—Bennett H. Newton, Rt. 1 Box 600, St. James City, Fla. 33966

Fore River Patrol Base, Mass. (1942-43)—Harry (Uddy) (continued on page 68)

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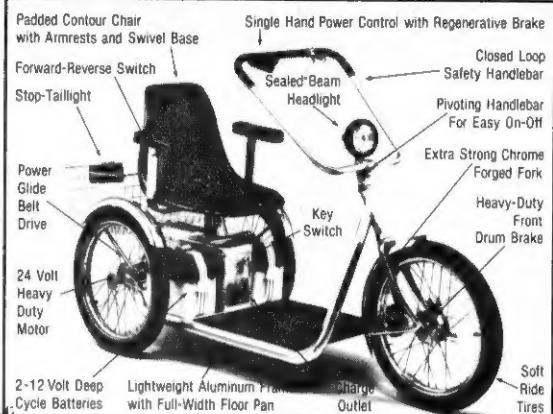
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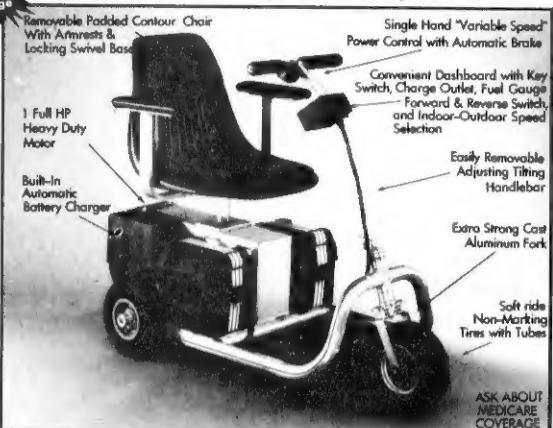


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(continued from page 64)

Lippo and Lemke. — B.W. Hamilton, P.O. Box 55, Stillwater, Me. 04489.

FLOT. 325 LCI (L) — Alex Bosmeny, 1620 Hillsdale Rd., Titusville, Fl. 32780.

USS Wakefield (AP21) — For reunion. — Al Hutt, 162 Taylor St., San Francisco, Calif. 94102.

USS W.J. Connors (1944-46) — W. Andrews, 369 Broadway, San Francisco, Calif. 94133.

MARINES

Guam, 1954 — PFC Woodrow McVay. — Arthur A. Best, 4111 Peachtree, Wilmington, N.C. 28403.

3rd LCI BN. (South Pacific, 1943-44) — Sgt. Maj. Carl L. Hurley, Maj. Sylvester L. Stephenson, Verl D. Walker, Vernal V. Bartlett, for reunion. — Donald S. Thomas, 305 17th St. N., Benson, Minn. 56215.

San Juan, Puerto Rico (1941-45) — Louis Martin and wife. — Bill Bradley, Sr., 150 Spruce St., Turnerville, N.J. 08012.

1st Marine Div., 5th Marines, 3rd BN., K Co. (China, Okinawa, Russell Island, 1944-45) — Corp. Henry (Hank) Harper — Ralph E. Shannon, 1302 5th Ave., Ford City, Pa. 16226.

Point Loma, Calif., Naval Fuel Supply Depot, 2nd Guard BN., MC Base, San Diego (1941-42) and 1st Marine Div., 1st Amtrac BN., A Co. (Korea, 1950-51) — John T. Van Meter (Denver), Richard N. Bice (Detroit) or next of kin. — Gerald F. Daileympole, 11675 Grove St., Seminole, Fl. 33542.

San Diego and Camp Pendleton, Calif. (1944) — John Day (Minn.) — 315 N. West St., Spence, Ind. 47460.

NAVY

14th NCB (WW II) — Richard James Quigley for reunion. — William C. Fulton, 1000-13 Seminole Trail, Indian Harbor, Granbury, Texas 76048.

USS PGM 19 (WW II) — PE. Mohney, RD 1 Box 312, Creekside, Pa. 15732.

USS Little (APD4) — For reunion. — William (Nick) S. Matthews, Rt. 7 Box 824, Pensacola, Fl. 32506.

USS Aristed (AK73) — For reunion. — Richard E. Baker, 1002 Catherine Ave., Kinston, N.C. 28501.

USS LST 397 (WW II) — Donald Haage, 504 Jefferson, Streamer, Ill. 61364.

USS Independence, Air Group 27 (1945) — For reunion. — Leo B. Ghastin, 510 Dadson Dr., Lansing, Mich. 48810.

USS Emmons (DD457)/DMS22 — For reunion. — David Jensen, 87-26 259th St., Floral Park, N.Y. 11001.

USS Taylor (DD468)(1944-49) — Wayne J. Burgess, 112 Jerome Rd., Uncasville, Conn. 06382.

USS Forster (CL105) — For reunion. — J.A. Hopay, 329 Forest Grove Rd., Coraopolis, Pa. 15108.

1st, 2nd, 4th, 6th, 7th, & 8th Naval Beach BN. (Europe, WW II) — For reunion. — Clifford L. Legerton, 817 Gates Ave., Norfolk, Va. 23517.

GRO-PAC, 10th Supply Dept. — John H. Russell, 520 W. Main St., Manchester, Ga. 31816.

ACORN 24 (S.W. Pac., 1944-45) — For reunion. — Dean (Big Tex) Wootten, PO Box 376, Lone Star, Texas 75668.

USS Miantonomah (CM10), USS Blair (DE147) and USS Henry A. Wiley (DM29) — Kenneth E. Miller, 6256 Sterling Ave., Bensalem, Pa. 19020.

CASU 15 (1943-44) — Curtis G. Lowrie (Texas) — Robert T. McGhee, Box 444, Star City, Ark. 71667.

USS Stanton (DE247)(1943-46) — Alva G. Rosebrough (Cincinnati) and others. — Thomas F. Mangrum, 228 E. Park Ave., Albemarle, N.C. 28001.

USS Alden (DD211)(WW II & prior) — Burt Koentopp, Box 184, Post Falls, Idaho 83854.

MISCELLANEOUS

WW I POW's — Want to interview in connection with planned book. — Daniel P. Possumato, Army Education Center, APO New York 09139.

VFW Lapel Pin and Tie Clasp — For Post collection. — Mike Flanagan, 3762 W. 176 St., Cleveland, Ohio 44111.

Siege of Brest — For proposed book. Would like to hear from veterans of 2nd, 8th & 29th Div. or other units who participated in battle for port city, Aug. Sept. 1944 — James K. Anderson, 621 W. 63rd St., Kansas City, Mo. 64113.

USS Renshaw (DD499) — For proposed article. Would like to hear from all who served aboard ship. — Richard R. Post, PO. Box 103, Landing Two, Shallotte, N.C. 28459.

Operation Deep Freeze, McMurdo Sta., Antarctica, VSN, Task Force 199, VXE-6, Det. Christchurch, and MAC and USCG support units (1955-81) — Putting together scrapbook. Would like to hear from anyone who served. — Tom Finley, 216 E. Griswold St., Spring Valley, Minn. 55975.

1st Div., 1st Engr. Combat BN. (1942-45) — Seeking book with history of unit. — Charles E. Schaffer, 5516 Independence Rd., St. Charles, Mo. 63301.



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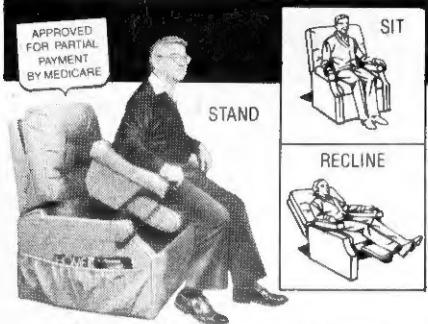
AIR FORCE

(Including Army air units prior to 1947)

OCTOBER

25th Bomb. Grp. (Rec.) Assn. (Watton, England, Sta. 376 WW II) — 12-16, Houston, Texas — Warren Borges, 162 Topsfield Rd., Ipswich, Mass. 09138.

(continued on page 70)



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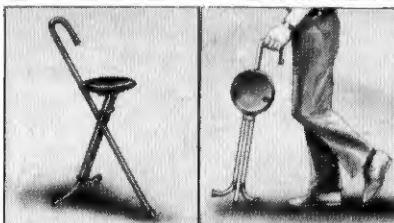
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(continued from page 68)

52nd Fr. Grp., 2nd Sqdn. (WW II)—21-23, Chicago, Ill.—Fred Ohr, 3550 W. Peterson Ave., Chicago, Ill.

APRIL 1984

45th Bomb. Sqdn. (WW II)—10-15, Charleston, S.C.—Joe Havrilla, 1208 Margaret St., Munhall, Pa. 15120.

MAY 1984

47th Bomb. Grp. (L)—3-5, San Antonio, Texas—Costa Chalas, 18 Trapelo Rd., Belmont, Mass. 02178.

JUNE 1984

456th Bomb. Grp., Assn.—European tour—James Watkins, 11415 Minor Dr., Kansas City, Mo. 64114.

ARMY

OCTOBER

476th Ord. Evac. Co. (WW II)—2-7, Petit Jean State Park, Ark.—Jack L. Chilcote, RD 1 Box 161, Altoona, Pa. 16601.

511th Engg. L.P. Co. (WW II)—22, Wayne, N.J.—Nick Rosania, P.O. Box 412, Whitehouse Sta., N.J. 08889.

713th MP Bn.—1, Utica, N.Y.—Rocco Sanciacomo, 25 Nob Rd., Utica, N.Y. 13501.

1722nd Ord. S&M Co. (Avn.) (WW II)—21-23, Oklahoma City, Okla.—Ernest Doke, Rt. 3 Box 225, El Reno, Okla. 73036.

NOVEMBER

409th Rgt., Co. A—Joseph Polacek, 4605 W. 98th Pl., Oaklawn, Ill. 60453.

MARCH 1984

40th Sta. Hosp. (WW II)—Houston, Texas—Art Sawyer, 19952 Greenview Rd., Detroit, Mich. 48219.

APRIL 1984

343rd Ord.—27-28, Branson, Mo.—Mancel Wilson, Box 131, Alsey, Ill. 62610.

MAY 1984

103rd Inf. Rgt.—5, Portland, Me.—Michael Swisko, 11 Evergreen Rd., S. Portland, Me. 04106.

121st Inf. Rgt. Assn.—17-19, Macon Ga.—James Brake, 1069 Mimosa Dr., Macon, Ga. 31204.

136th Inf. Co. A—18-20, Ft. Wayne, Ind.—Lyle Powers, 202 S. 7th St., Brighton, Mich. 48116.

782nd Tank Bn. (WW II)—New York, N.Y.—Sy Canton, 500 7th Ave., New York, N.Y. 10018.

JUNE 1984

87th Chem. Mortar Bn.—6, Europe—Jerry Portis, P.O. Box 226, Skokie, Ill. 60077.

MARINES

DECEMBER

USS Alaska, Marine Det. (CBI)—18, New York, N.Y.—Thomas McLoughlin, 250 Concord Ave., West Hempstead, N.Y. 11552.

APRIL 1984

2nd Amtrac Bn.—12-15, Atlanta, Ga.—Perry Tenny, 3648 Peachtree Rd., Atlanta, Ga. 30319.

NAVY

OCTOBER

ASRs—5-7, Panama City Beach, Fl.—Robert Driscoll, 4002 Milano Rd., Panama City, Fl. 32405.

Seabees, Florida Chap.—22-24, Clearwater, Fl.—Jim Sullivan, 3801 18 Way East, Seven Springs, Fl. 33552.

NOVEMBER

PVB-203 (PBM Mariner)(South Atlantic Survivors)—20, Hudson, N.Y.—Tom Quigley, 315 Union St., Hudson, N.Y. 12534.

DECEMBER

Area Seabees—3, Sunbury, Pa.—Harry Klein, 216 Market St., Sunbury, Pa. 17801.

USS Mars (AFS1) (1963-70)—9-11, San Diego, Calif.—Mars Reunion, P.O. Box 86253, San Diego, Calif. 92138.

JANUARY 1984

USS Cooper (DD692)—Knoxville, Tenn.—Ray Shiel, 26 Whipple Ave., Cranston, R.I. 02920.

USS Saugus (LWS4)—Washington, D.C.—Lou Noll, 2122 Grayson Pl., Falls Church, Va. 22043.

FEBRUARY 1984

USS Savage (DER386)—4, Honolulu, Hawaii—David Smith, P.O. Box 1301, Honolulu, Hawaii 96807.

MARCH 1984

17th NCB, Sec. 1 & 2, Det. 1004—23-26, Orlando, Fl.—Kent King, 103 Thayer Ave., Mankato, Minn. 56001.

USS PC793—29-31, New Orleans, La.—Joseph Wilkinson, P.O. Box 343, New Florence, Pa. 15944.

APRIL 1984

Fleet Air Wing 7 (Sqdns. 103, 105, 107, 110, 111, 112, 114, PATSUs, HEDRON and FAW-7 Staff) (Dunkirk, Eng.)—6-8, Jacksonville, Fl.—Frank Bransom, 8219 Grampell Dr. E., Jacksonville, Fl. 32205.

MAY 1984

46th NCB—3-5, Arlington, Texas—W.M. Fry, 1820 Melissa, Arlington, Texas 76010.

USS Block Island (CVB21 & 106)—26-28, Boston, Mass.—Weber Torres, 118 E. Morgan St., Fairhaven, Mass. 02719.

JUNE 1984

USS Achernar (AKA53)—4-8, State College, Pa.—Carol Preston, 1491 Longbrook Dr., Cullman, Ala. 35055.

USS Reno (1943-45)—15-17, Reno, Nev.—Ethel Post, Rt. 1 Box 13-A, Philomath, Ore. 97370.

VP-24 (Atlantic City, N.J.; Patuxent River, Md., and Chincoteague, Va., 1947-52)—Patuxent River, Md.—D.L. Wiley, Wynne Rd., Ridge, Md. 20680.

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—Quote

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—Quote



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